

Reregistration Audit Report

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for the following certified forest area:

Wabigoon Forest, Sustainable Forest Licence #541953

File Number: 012845-16
Date of evaluation: (25-28/06/2018)
Date of report: (29/07/2018)
Certificate Issued date: (29/09/2008)
Certificate Expiry date: (30/10/2018)
FSC® Certificate Code: QMI-FM/COC-001217



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SLIMFs –The element mark with an asterix (*) in the table are not required in the case of certificates issued to single SLIMF FMUs but are required for all other certificates.

1.0 DESCRIPTION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT

1.1 Basic Quantitative Information

Type of certificate					
Single FMU	x	Multiple FMU		Group	
Small SLIMF		Low intensity SLIMF		Group SLIMF	
Number of Group Members or Group SLIMF					
		Number	Area (ha).		
Less than 100 ha					
100-1,000 ha					
1,000-10,000 ha					
More than 10,000 ha					
Total					
FMUs list					
Name/Description	Area. (ha).	Forest Zone	Location Latitude N/S - Longitude E/O		
Wabigoon Forest SFL# 541953		Boreal	Latitude N 49 degrees 41 minutes		
			Longitude O 92 degrees 36 minutes		
Tenure		Area (ha)			
Private		1,276 ha			
Public		726,779 ha			
Community					
Area		Area (ha)			
Natural Forest		716,445 ha			
Plantation		n/a			
Conservation Forest		10,334 ha			
Total certified area (FSC Database)		726,779 ha			
					Area (ha)
Production forest (from which timber may be harvested)					533,187 ha
Forest and non-forest land protected from commercial harvesting and managed primarily for conservation objectives					10,334 ha
Protected from commercial harvesting and managed primarily for the production of NTFPs or services.					n/a
Classified as 'high conservation value forest'					62,394.5 ha
Production forest classified as 'plantation'					None
Production forest regenerated primarily by replanting or by a combination of replanting and coppicing of the planted stems					0
Production forest regenerated primarily by natural regeneration or by a combination of natural regeneration and coppicing of the naturally regenerated stems					21,747 ha

List of High Conservation Values:		
Categories	Description	Area ha.
1 - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant concentrations of biodiversity values (e.g. endemism, endangered species, and refugia).	AOC's	
2 - Forest areas containing globally, regionally or nationally significant large landscape level forests, contained within, or containing the management unit, where viable populations of most if not all naturally occurring species exist in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.	IFLs have been assessed and none have been identified	
3 - Forest areas that are in or contain rare, threatened or endangered ecosystems.	None	
4 - Forest areas that provide basic services of nature in critical situations (e.g. watershed protection, erosion control).		
5 - Forest areas fundamental to meeting basic needs of local communities (e.g. subsistence, health).		
6 - Forest areas critical to local communities' traditional cultural identity (areas of cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance identified in cooperation with such local communities).		

List of main commercial timber and non-timber species included in scope of certificate:			
Common Name	Scientific Name	Approximate AAC (m3)	Non-timber (✓)
Black Spruce	<i>Picea mariana</i>	323,365	
Jack Pine	<i>Pinus banksiana</i>	201,074	
White Spruce	<i>Picea glauca</i>	7,584	
Balsam Fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i>	26,104	
Eastern White Cedar	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	7,012	
Larch	<i>Larix laricina</i>	1,514	
Poplar	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	137,608	
White Birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	86,861	
Black Ash	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	831	
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>	2,182	

Non-timber forest products included in scope:	
Product	Approximate Annual Commercial Production
n/a	

List of product categories included in the certificate scope:			
Product description	FSC Claim	Product type L1	Product type L2
In wood chips	FSC 100%	W3.1	
Round Wood	FSC 100%	W1.1	

Note: These products are available for sale as FSC® certified products (include basic description of product - e.g. round wood, pulp wood, sawn timber, kiln-dried sawn timber, chips, resin, non-timber forest products, etc.

List of chemical pesticides used within the forest area:			
Product name	Quantity (l or Kg)	Treated areas ha.	Reason for use
Vision max #27736	2539.7 kg	1209.4	Vegetation management

Workers (includes employees, seasonal workers of certificate holder and contractors)					
Men	342	Women	63	Total	405
Number of accidents in since last audit	18	Serious	1	Fatal	0

1.2* Legislative, Administrative and Land Use Context

The Crown Forest Sustainability Act and the Environmental Assessment Act provide the legislative framework for the forest management of Crown lands in Ontario. Domtar Inc. holds a renewable sustainable license #541953 granted by the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry giving it the legal right to manage the land and utilize the forest resources within the publicly owned Crown managed portion of the whole Wabigoon forest area.

1.3 Description of Land Ownership and Use

1.3.1 Ownership and Use Rights of Parties Other than the Certificate Holder

The Wabigoon forest is a large public (Crown) forest in Northwestern Ontario, which is managed by Domtar Inc as licensed by the province of Ontario through a Sustainable Forest License. The Sustainable Forest Resource Licence allows for harvesting, renewal and maintenance activities on all Crown lands available for management. In addition to forestry, other activities that take place on the forests under permit from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources of Forest (MNRF) include trapping, prospecting/mining, wind farms and tourist operations. Treaty rights exist within the SFL areas, and confer hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering rights to First Nations. Some Aboriginal rights are also conferred to Métis people.

As per the SFLs, the licence areas do not include “lands which have been alienated from the Crown, Ontario, all parks and conservation reserves, all Ministry of Transportation lands registered by Crown Land Plan, lands under Mining Lease where the Minister does not have the right to conduct forest management and all First Nation and other Federal lands”.

1.3.2 Summary of Non-forestry Activities

The forest is actively used by the general public and other stakeholders for such activities as hunting, fishing, trapping, canoeing, hiking, ATViing and snowmobiling.

1.4 Description of Area(s) Excluded from Scope of Certification

1.4.1 Excision of areas from the scope of certification

There are no area excised from the FMU

1.4.2 Partial certification of large ownership

The company also manages other forest management units in Canada. The table below provides the status of certification for those forest areas.

Region	Certification scheme	
	FSC®	SFI
Windsor Forest (Quebec)	x	x
Espanola (Ontario)		x
Hearst (Ontario)		
Trout Lake (Ontario)		x
Wabigoon (Ontario)	x	x

1.5 Management Plan Summary

1.5.1 Management Objectives

There is 14 Management objectives in the Forest Management Plan. Objectives cover social, environmental and economic considerations.

Objective 1: To Emulate natural disturbance and landscape patterns characteristic of Site Region 4S

Objective 2: To maintain or move towards a natural range of forest composition and age classes which includes mature/over mature age classes and rare forest type

Objective 3: To maintain forest function for wildlife habitat in the Wabigoon forest

Objective 4: To provide road-based access, land use and recreational opportunities through road maintenances and development of access to areas planned for harvested within the plan period

Objective 5: To implement forestry operations in manner to minimize conflict with non-timber resource users, and protected non-timbers values, in order to provide all users with the opportunity to benefit from forest

Objective 6: To effectively regenerate harvest areas to Free Growing status in a manner that is consistent with the regeneration standards outlined in the Silvicultural Ground Rules for the Wabigoon Forest.

Objective 7: To implement forestry operations in a manner that minimizes conflict with non-timber resources users, and protected non-timbers values, in order to provide all users with the opportunity to benefit from forest

Objective 8: To recognize and respect the legitimacy and presence of other commercial businesses, and to contribute to the economic viability of resource based businesses in or adjacent to the Wabigoon Forest through the protection of associated values

Objective 9: To provide a predictable and continuous supply of wood products to the forest products industry from the Wabigoon Forest

Objective 10: To maintain productivity of soil function, and to protect water quality and fisheries habitat where forest management activities occur in the Wabigoon Forest.

Objective 11: To provide continuous social benefits resulting from the forest products industry that relies on fibre from the Wabigoon Forest.

Objective 12: To provide opportunities for Aboriginal community involvement in the planning process

Objective 13: To plan and implement forest management activities in a manner that protect all known Aboriginal values

Objective 14: To have the Local Citizens Advisory Committee effectively participate in the development of the management plan.

1.5.2 Forest resources

The Wabigoon Forest lies within the Boreal Forest Region, however a small portion in the south is a transition zone between the Boreal Forest and the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Regions. Coniferous trees, mostly spruce and jack pine are characteristic of the area, in association with trembling aspen and white birch. Pockets of red and white pine occur, and to a limited extent eastern white cedar, tamarack and bur oak. On upland sand flats in the north of the unit, jack pine stands are predominant, and usually originated from wild fire. On clay sites in the central portion of the unit, mixed woods stands of trembling aspen, balsam fir, white birch, spruce and pine are common. On low-lying sites throughout the management unit, black spruce stands are usually evident. Some sites support typical bog vegetation such as sphagnum moss, labrador tea, herbaceous species, grasses and sedges. Other fresh sites support pockets of cedar trees. Well-drained sites with coarse soils, such as moraines and bedrock ridges, often support jack pine and occasional stands of red pine.

1.5.3 Silvicultural Systems

Silvicultural Ground Rules (SGRs) were established to specify the silvicultural systems, types of harvest, renewal and tending treatments that will be used to manage forest cover on the Wabigoon Forest. The silvicultural ground rules also identify the type of forest that is expected to develop over time. The “most common treatment package” in each silvicultural ground rule will be the most likely treatment applied as per table below. Acceptable alternative treatments are also identified in the Forest Management Plan. The silvicultural system is based on even aged management – Clear cut with consideration for natural disturbance emulation including a minimum of residual trees, assessment and placement of residual patches and peninsulas as required by the natural pattern emulation guideline assessment.

1.5.4 Management strategy for the identification and protection of rare, threatened and endangered species

Species listed in the regulation under the Endangered Species Act are afforded legal protection under the Act. Many species at risk are also listed as Specially Protected Wildlife in schedules under the provincial Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act. In addition, the federal Species at Risk Act ensures protection to most of these species, whereas the Federal Fisheries Act provides protection to all fish habitat, and the federal Migratory Birds Convention Act provides protection to species of migratory birds. Area of Concern (AOC) prescriptions and conditions on regular operations (CRO's) are used to protect known occurrences of rare threatened and endangered species.

1.5.5 Management Structures

The Crown Managed land of the entire Forest is licensed to Domtar Inc. The Company directs its activities from a planning office in Dryden, Ontario. The company provides training and standard operating procedures regarding forest management for its staff and contractors. The harvesting, road construction/maintenance and silvicultural activities are conducted by contractors. The company provides detailed block maps to the contractors and specifically reviews the Areas of concern and special features for each block.

1.5.6 Monitoring Procedures

Forest management operations are routinely monitored to ensure compliance with the management plan, with particular emphasis on prescriptions for operations including: area of concern prescriptions, any restrictions on operations, and adherence to harvest boundary lines. Monitoring is also conducted to evaluate renewal success and changes in forest cover. MNR also conducts surveys of forest values (e.g. moose surveys) to support forest management planning. Monitoring is also conducted of exceptions to silvicultural guides and other guidelines.

The 10-year Strategic Compliance Plan is the most important document in the monitoring program. It describes when, where, how and who will monitor operations. All operations are subject to inspections in accordance with the MNR approved Compliance Plans and the Company's environmental management system. The Company's monitoring system starts by the creation of block files for every harvest block, major roads, crossings, and each

silvicultural activity. The block files contain all the information required to carry out the requirements of the FMP. Before any activity takes place in a block, a pre-operations meeting is carried out with the contractor. All pertinent information is passed on to the contractor so that he is aware of any special operating conditions for the activity being carried out.

1.5.7 Environmental safeguard

Operational prescriptions for areas of concern (AOCs) may be reserves (i.e., prohibition of operations), modified operations (i.e., specific conditions or restrictions on operations) or regular operations (i.e., in accordance with the silvicultural ground rules), individually or in combination. Modified operations may be regular operations with conditions (e.g., timing, equipment), or unique prescriptions that are developed to protect or manage specific natural resource features, land uses or values.

Prescriptions for AOCs are applied to protect identified values that may be impacted by operations during the term of the plan. AOCs were developed for this FMP using the relevant implementation manuals, policy documents, interpretation notes, and FMP training direction and in consultation with the operations, wildlife, tourism and Aboriginal involvement task teams. In addition, the public was invited as part of the FMP planning process to comment on AOCs as they were being developed. The selection and planning of harvest, renewal and road locations were conducted in consideration of all currently identified values. AOC prescriptions were developed in consultation with tourism operators, cottagers and other effected stakeholders as required.

1.6 Maximum Sustained Yield for main commercial species

1.6.1 Assumptions

Model inputs – 2008 Supplemental Documentation 3 Analysis Package (page 17 – 53) Assumptions were made regarding the forest development – regeneration pathways, forest growth and succession. The assumptions were supported by permanent growth plot data and regeneration monitoring. Natural disturbance cycles were estimated based on past natural disturbance patterns and frequency. Assumptions about wildlife habitat supply was also input in the model with MNRF consultation.

An initial volume target was set with constraints around fluctuation term to term. The SFMM model was run many times to come to a best solution.

1.6.2 Source Data

Forest Resource Inventory, MNRF Values, business data (Harvest and Silviculture tracking). Growth and yield information originates from yield tables based on measurements of permanent and temporary growth and yield plots and further refined with actual harvest yield information and professional knowledge.

1.7 Current and Projected Annual Harvest by Species (main commercial)

FMP Phase 2:

Conifer = 599155 m³/year

Hardwood = 297286 m³/year

1.8 Eligibility as a SLIMF

Not applicable

1.9 Certificate scope

Forest Management activities-planning, harvesting, transportation and silviculture on the Wabigoon Sustainable Forest License in Ontario, Canada

Product type: W1.1 Softwood and hardwood Roundwood logs; W3.1 Wood chips

Certificate type: Single FMU

2.0 THE STANDARD

2.1 Standard Used

National Boreal Standard (Aug 2004)

You may get a copy of the standard at the following address:

<https://ca.fsc.org/fr-ca/fsc-certification/policy-and-standard-documents/forest-management-standards>

Revision to the standard since last audit:	N/A
Implication for the FMU:	N/A

3.0 EVALUATION

Evaluation dates:	25-28/06/2018
Task	Person days (excluding travel)
Pre-evaluation	0
Pre and Post-audit work (audit plan and report writing)	4
Audit time (Documents, Records, Fieldwork)	12
Stakeholders Consultation	2,5

TOTAL	18,5
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EVALUATION TEAM	
Lead auditor: Hervé Bescond	
<p>Hervé Bescond specializes in forest ecology. He graduated from Université du Québec à Montréal with a Master's degree in biology, and also holds a French forestry diploma. During his Master's program, Hervé studied the impact of harvesting during the first half of the 20th century on stand structure and composition in the mixed forest. For almost 10 years he took part in research work in sustainable forest management, looking at the implementation and impact of adapted silvicultural practices in the boreal forest, from the twin standpoints of silviculture and biodiversity. He was also interested in the structure of residual stands, wind throw, deadwood and the diversity of understory vegetation. Since 2010 he has taken part in audits in the boreal and mixed forest.</p>	
Auditor: Daniel Martin,	
<p>Daniel Martin is a consultant offering specialized services in sustainable forest management, chain of custody and environmental management system certification. Daniel is a registered Forest Engineer in the Province of Quebec (11-014) and is an ISO 14001 lead assessor and a FSC® FM lead auditor. He has conducted more than 40 FSC FM audits in the Maritimes, Boreal and Great Lakes/St-Lawrence forest types. He has experience in the forest industry as a supervisor and manager, specifically in silviculture, harvesting and fiber procurement for sawmills in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. Furthermore, Daniel has cumulated experience in the management of an engineered wood products facility in the province of Quebec and he was a lecturer at the <i>Université de Moncton</i>. These experiences have allowed for development of skills ranging from forest management, health and safety, budgeting, contract negotiations and human resource management.</p>	
Auditor: Sylvain Frappier	
<p>Technical manager – Forestry programs at SAI Global. Sylvain is the technical expert for the forestry series of standards, and is responsible for the overall technical capabilities of the division's sector specific business, ensuring the Americas meet all of the accreditation requirements. Sylvain is also responsible for managing large forestry clients such as Resolute forest products, Tembec, Domtar and others. Sylvain has worked in the forest industry in project management of public, private and urban forestry for several years. He is a qualified lead auditor for the verification of management system against ISO 14001, International forest management standards such as SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiatives) CSA Z809 SFM, CSA Z804 SFM, and FSC FM (Forestry Stewardship Council) as well as for the verification of the PEFC, SFI and FSC Chain of custody.</p>	

Peer reviewer(s)	Not applicable as this is a RR audit
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3.1 Description of Evaluation

3.1.1 Itinerary

Activities	Date
Start of Stakeholders Consultation	May 7, 2018
Audit plan sent to certificate holder	May 17, 2018
Offsite document review	June 18-22, 2018
Opening meeting	June 25, 2018
Onsite audit (field visit, interview and	June 24-28,2018

stakeholders meetings)	
Closing meeting	June 28, 2018

3.1.2* Approach

An assessment plan was developed that identified roles and responsibilities, a schedule for the various activities and notifications, a field site selection process, and key stakeholders and contact people. The plan for notifying stakeholders and members of the public regarding the assessment involved a combination of letters, emails and phone calls. All NGOs, Indigenous and Metis communities were sent registered letters.

The audit started with a documentation review of evidence provided by Domtar done off site. This was followed by an onsite audit to complete the review of documented evidence, interviews and field visit. The field assessment included a full day of aerial oversight.

3.1.3* Selected FMUs and Rationale

The audit assessed the conformance to the FSC National Boreal Standard on the Wabigoon Forest.

3.1.4* Sites Visited

FMU	Site	Activities audited
Wabigoon Forest	Block 2014	Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HC VF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision. Fuel storage and handling, Road building, Stream crossing
Wabigoon Forest	Moon Lake Road	Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HC VF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision. Road building
Wabigoon Forest	Stream crossing (#413, Ingall Lake) Ingall Lake road	Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information

	upgrade	provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision, Road building SOP and monitoring, Stream crossing installation SOP and monitoring
Wabigoon Forest	Stream crossing #1700	Road building SOP and monitoring. Stream crossing installation SOP and monitoring
Wabigoon Forest	Block 2604	Site preparation, Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision. Site preparation SOP and monitoring
Wabigoon Forest	Stream crossing #1702	Road building SOP and monitoring. Stream crossing installation SOP and monitoring
Wabigoon Forest	Stream crossing # 1276 White Pine Road	Road building SOP and monitoring. Stream crossing installation SOP and monitoring
Wabigoon Forest	Block 551553	Chipping+Processor. Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision.
Wabigoon Forest	Block 1996	Chipping. Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals, Adequacy of supervision.
Wabigoon Forest	Ghost Lake Road	Road upgrade. Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value),

		FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals
Wabigoon Forest	Block 2563	Spraying 2017+ Plantation 2018
Wabigoon Forest	Block 1942	Harvest winter
Wabigoon forest	Block 2510	Active harvesting, buffer zones, wood processing, installed culvert. Opportunities for local communities (local workers), Standard Operating Procedures, process for reporting illegal activities, wages, worker's health and safety, wood product sorting (best value), FMP information provided to forest workers (maps, HCVF, AOC), First Nations/environmental/other values on the managed area, residual structure, species at risk, worker training and competence, SOP implementation related to handling of chemicals
Wabigoon forest	Block 1836	Road construction, installed culvert
Wabigoon forest	Resolute block	Cutting road right away, buffer zones

3.1.5* Stakeholder Consultation

Stakeholders contacted	Number contacted	Provided input
FSC National Initiative	1	0
Provincial Department of Natural Resources / State Forest Service	9	3
Federal/National Agencies	0	0
Associations / Clubs / Outfitters	5	0
Private stakeholders	1	0
NGOs that are active in respect to social or environmental aspects of forest management – National or Regional	11	1
Representatives of Indigenous Peoples	12	0
Representatives of forest-dwelling or forest-using communities	1	0
Labour organizations or unions of forestry sector workers	3	0
Contractors who provide services to the forest operation to be assessed	0	0
Employees	0	0
Municipalities	3	0
International NGOs that have requested to be contacted in respect of evaluations in particular regions or countries	1	0
University/College	0	0

Comments from stakeholders and SAI Global's response
<u>Comments from stakeholder</u>
<u>N/A</u>

<u>SAI Global's response</u>
N/A

The list of stakeholders is a confidential document. The list is on file with SAI Global.

3.1.6 *Additional Evaluation Techniques

N/A

4.0 OBSERVATIONS

PRINCIPLE #1: COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND FSC PRINCIPLES	
Criterion 1.1 Compliance with national and local laws and administrative requirements.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	<p>Review of process indicate that Domtar has access and maintain adequate registry of all applicable laws and regulation for the scope of this certification. Appropriate staff members, contractors, and others associated with Domtar understand the legal and administrative obligations pertaining to forest management and consultation with affected Indigenous Peoples and stakeholders.</p> <p>Domtar's performance record demonstrates an appropriate level of consultative and partnership-building activity. It was also observed that Domtar takes immediate and specific corrective actions when incidences of non-compliance are identified.</p> <p>Minor NC was issued to indicator 1.1.2 about awareness of regulations requirement on the storage, handling of DEF (Diesel Exhaust Fluid).</p>
Criterion 1.2 Payment of fees, taxes etc.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Evidences presented confirm that all applicable and legally prescribed fees, royalties, taxes and other charges are paid.
Criterion 1.3 Compliance with international agreements	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	On site audit and field verification did not detect any issues related to the understanding and application of any legal and administrative obligations with respect to relevant international agreements.
Criterion 1.4 Documenting of conflicts with laws.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	No conflicts between laws, regulations and the FSC Principles and Criteria were identified by Domtar Inc.
Criterion 1.5 Protection from illegal activities	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Should something be discovered, Domtar would advise the MNR through an informal procedure to record and report illegal activities. All Forest Management non-compliance is self-reported to MNR via industry self compliance (FOIP).
Criterion 1.6 Adherence to FSC principles.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The Wabigoon Forest is certified to the FSC® National Boreal standard since 2008. The relevant employees are informed about the requirements on the use of the FSC's Trademarks.

PRINCIPLE #2 TENURE AND USE RIGHTS AND REPSONSIBILITIES	
Criterion 2.1 Evidence of forest use rights.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Domtar Inc. has obtained the legal right to manage the lands and to harvest all the tree species on the Wabigoon forest on April 1 st , 2002. The term of agreement between Domtar and the Ministry of Natural Ressources and Forestry has commenced on the 1st day of April, 2002, and expires on the 31st day of March, 2022, but may be extended in accordance with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act.
Criterion 2.2 Local communities with use rights can protect their rights and resources.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The interests and rights of local communities are addressed through Ontario Regulations, the SFL; the respective Local Citizen Committee and the FMP values identification and the public consultation process.
Criterion 2.3 Appropriate mechanisms to resolve disputes.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	There is a specific dispute resolution mechanism in the Forest Management Planning system. The records of disputes are available in the FMP (Phase 1 and Phase 2) supplementary documentation. The company is not involved in any outstanding disputes of substantial magnitude on the forest involving a significant number of interests.
PRINCIPLE #3 INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS	
Criterion 3.1 Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Domtar has been working with affected Aboriginal Communities, making best efforts to obtain informed consent at a community level. The Aboriginal Consultation Process identified in the Forest Management Planning Manual for Ontario's Crown Forest (2009) includes requirements for Aboriginal participation in the development of forest management plans, including requirements for consultation, the development of Aboriginal Background Information Reports, and the Report on the Protection of Identified Aboriginal Values. The Report on the Protection of Identified Aboriginal Values includes a process to ensure that community interests and concerns are addressed in each Forest Management Plan. Within the Ontario planning context, a Terms of Reference is prepared for each forest management plan. There are provisions in the <i>Forest Management Planning Manual for Ontario's Crown Forests</i> for FN community representatives on each planning team, and the Terms of Reference (ToR) for each plan outlines roles and responsibilities, and decision making processes.
Criterion 3.2 Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure rights of Indigenous Peoples.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Local First Nation have prepared background information reports and identified values. First Nations are involved in the planning phase of the FMP. AOC are developed in relation to First Nation identified values.
Criterion 3. Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to Indigenous People(s) shall be clearly identified in cooperation with such Peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	In the province of Ontario the Ministry of Natural Resources is responsible for the collection of values information. High Potential Cultural Values also identified through the use of the Heritage Assessment Tool as part of the AOC Planning Process for each Forest Management Plan. Phase II Archaeological Assessments carried out where roads or water crossing could potentially

	compromise a cultural heritage value.
Criterion 3.4 Indigenous Peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge regarding the use of forest species or management systems in forest operations. This compensation shall be formally agreed upon with their free and informed consent before forest operations commence.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	First Nations community representatives are compensated for participation on FMP planning Teams, and for participation on Local Citizens Committees (plus travel costs). Included in MNR FMP budget. Communities are also compensated for the collection of Aboriginal Values Information
PRINCIPLE 4 COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND FOREST WORKERS' RIGHTS	
Criterion 4.1 The communities within or adjacent to the forest management area should be given the opportunity for employment, training, and other services.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Most of Domtar worker and contractors live within 100 KM of the Wabigoon forest. Domtar gives priority to local suppliers. Forest workers are covered by a Collective agreement - Unifor Local 324 covering the period of Sept 1 2014 to Aug 31 2018. The collective agreement is in the process to be renewed. Training is an integral and proactive part of Domtar's operation so employees can continually upgrade their skills.
Criterion 4.2 Forest management should meet or exceed all applicable laws and/or regulations covering health and safety of employees and their families.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	All Domtar employees are covered by W.S.I.B. coverage and supplemental accident and disability insurance. Contractors working on the SFL require .W.S.I.B. coverage. All Domtar employees participate in a supplemental health insurance program. Benefit package for contractor unionized labour agreement which includes supplementary health insurance. This was confirmed by interview of workers in the forest. Domtar maintains adequate general liability and employer's liability insurance. All contractors working the SFL are required to maintain general liability insurance.
Criterion 4.3 The rights of workers to organize and voluntarily negotiate with their employers shall be guaranteed as outlined in Conventions 87 and 98 of the International Labour Organization (ILO).	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Forest Workers on the Wabigoon SFL belong to the UNIFOR, Local 324. See Collective Agreement. All harvest, road construction and renewal activities contracted by Domtar on the Wabigoon SFL are conducted under a collective agreement. Collective Agreement ratified with Unifor Local 324, 105.1 and 105.3 on April 30, 2015. No evidence of company interference in the rights of workers to organize. This was confirmed by interview of forest workers.
Criterion 4.4 Management planning and operations shall incorporate the results of evaluations of social impact. Consultations shall be maintained with people and groups directly affected by management operations.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The public participation process is regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources. The process is comprehensive, open and allows comments on management plans at any time. The Local Citizens Committee participates on the planning team and provides advice to the MNR District Manager. Aboriginal communities are offered the opportunity for separate consultations. Forest management activities within the management unit are planned and implemented in a way as to protect sites of special cultural, ecological, economic, or religious significance to Indigenous Peoples and other affected parties.
Criterion 4.5 Appropriate mechanisms shall be employed for resolving grievances and for providing fair compensation in the case of loss or damage affecting the legal or customary rights, property,	

resources, or livelihoods of local peoples. Measures shall be taken to avoid such loss or damage.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	During the audit it was observed that Domtar uses due diligence to avoid circumstances in which damage may be caused to property, rights, resources or livelihoods. Operators are trained to avoid the occurrence of damage to the site, residual timber, watercourses or sites of cultural significance. Protection of a burial site was observed during the field audit. Dispute process is in place to address the general public concerns that may result from forest planning and operations.
PRINCIPLE 5 BENEFITS FROM THE FOREST	
Criterion 5.1 Forest management should strive toward economic viability, while taking into account the full environmental, social, and operational costs of production, and ensuring the investments necessary to maintain the ecological productivity of the forest.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	According to the 2016-2017 annual report, more areas are being artificially regenerated than originally planned. Each licensee on the forest must contribute to the renewal fund. A review of the 2016-2017 annual report showed that new plant and seeding combined, makes up 96% of yearly planned target. Tree planted area achieved 94% of target and the seeding area achieved 114%. The tree planted area has shown an increase over the past five year as harvest areas were finally completed and were available for renewal activities. The nine years of combined artificial renewal is 91% of the 9 year target which is very good considering that the harvest was only 67% of the harvest target. The annual report compares planned versus actual results for tree planting and seeding and artificial renewal, site preparation, chemical tending, pre-commercial thinning, slash pile burning, renewal of roads, debris pads and landings, primary road construction, branch road construction, operational road construction, road decommissioning and access control, road maintenance, water crossing installations, removals and monitoring, forest aggregate pits
Criterion 5.2 Forest management and marketing operations should encourage the optimal use and local processing of the forest's diversity of products.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Verified the 2016-2017 annual report text. As summarized in Table AR-2, the conifer species were mostly delivered to the Domtar pulpmill in the form of chips. Resolute FP Ignace Sawmill continued operations into 2016/2017 and has held steady in deliveries to their facilities through the report period. A minor amount of softwood and hardwood fuelwood was also harvested for commercial and personal use. The majority of the hardwood was delivered to Weyerhaeuser Company Ltd.'s Trus Joist mill in Kenora with a small amount being delivered to Norbord Inc. in Barwick.
Criterion 5.3 Forest management should minimize waste associated with harvesting and on-site processing operations and avoid damage to other forest resources.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Field visit. No evidence of waste. No issues raised. Review of the 2016-2017 annual report table 6 – Annual report of Forest Compliance inspection Reports, non-compliances and remedies. There are no non-compliances related to harvested merchantable and marketable timber left on site (waste) as well as related to damage to residual trees. No issues were raised by the auditors during the field visit.
Criterion 5.4 Forest management should strive to strengthen and diversify the local economy, avoiding dependence on a single forest product.	
Comments	Ongoing dialogue with forest dependent businesses (Tourist Operators, Bait

(strengths/weakness)	fishermen, Bear Management Unit Operators, Trappers, Berry pickers, etc.) Refer to the forest management plan for evidence of public consultation. Trapper representation on the LCC. Modify forest management prescriptions to maintain/support recreational tourism businesses and enhance local recreational opportunities. Values represented in AOC prescriptions.
Criterion 5.5 Forest management operations shall recognize, maintain, and where appropriate, enhance the value of forest services and resources, such as watersheds and fisheries.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The FMP contains significant focus on managing the potential impacts of forest management operations on timber and non-timber values and resources. The company uses preworks to convey key planning information such as location of sensitive site and value and associated prescriptions for their protection. Field personnel are knowledgeable regarding procedures and are applying this knowledge appropriately on the ground. Compliance monitoring is on-going and the company has a good compliance record.
Criterion 5.6 The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The forest management planning process in Ontario is highly regulated and aligns with meeting this standard. The Available Harvest Area cannot legally be exceeded in the province of Ontario. The management company plans and reports on harvest rates in manner consistent with the regulations. Harvest rates remain below the AAC.
PRINCIPLE 6 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	
Criterion 6.1 Environmental impact assessments.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Environmental impact assessment, inventory, and adaptive management components of this criterion are addressed largely through the Domtar EMS and the company's diligent implementation of the province's regulatory planning and reporting requirements.
Criterion 6.2 Safeguards must exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas).	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Measures to protect endangered species and their habitats are in place. Measures are also in place for other species and guidelines have been issued for animal and plant species for which there is no plan. All species potentially present on the FMU has been identified. There is also an annual revision process of the list of endangered species and their protection measures.
Criterion 6.3 Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced or restored.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The information and measures put in place by Domtar allow the company to maintain intact, enhance or restore the ecological functions and values of the forest ecosystem. Forest conditions have been illustrated over a long term period. AOC prescriptions and preworks maps provide all the environmental and protection requirements for contract operators. The Forest Management Plan contains procedures to avoid site and soil damage. The forest management plan contains the targets to enhance White Pine and maintain species as Red Maple and Black Ash. Harvesting takes place within the areas approved in the forest management plan and are consistent with the disturbance pattern associated with the long term management direction. The forest management plan describes the requirements for residual stand structure including insular patches, wildlife trees and AOC buffers. Areas of concern are identified for harvest blocks having water bodies within or

	adjacent to their boundaries and slope based reserves or buffers are assigned.
Criterion 6.4 Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps, appropriate to the scale and intensity of operations and the uniqueness of the affected resources.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Domtar has identified candidate protected areas by doing gap analysis.. Results of the candidate protected area identification process carried out have been mapped. The candidate protected areas have been presented to the Ministry of Natural Resources.
Criterion 6.5 Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to: control erosion; minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbances; and protect water resources.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Domtar are implementing an environmental management system that covers the required SOP. Training is effectively provided to forest workers and staff to ensure knowledge and competence on the implementation of SOP and work instructions. Knowledge was confirmed by interview of forest workers, contractor staff and Domtar's management team. Review of Table 6 of the annual report – Annual Report of Forest Compliance Inspections Reports, Non-compliances and Remedies. DNR submitted one non-conformance related to cutting, on a total of 50 reports. The warning was generated as a result of merchantable wood harvested by a member of the public without a permit/license. In addition to when there is a specific non-compliance review with operators and supervisors, Domtar will summarize and assess the issues of non-compliance and relay the trends to staff and contractor supervisors during an annual contractor meeting. Reoccurring trends associated with non-compliance for the past few years has been cut infractions due to outdated GPS files and/or lay-out person using outdated maps. Better communication and monitoring has occurred between all parties including Domtar, contractor supervisors and operators which resulted in procedures being followed and complacency is not contributing to occurrences of non-compliance. A review of the standard operating procedure for block lay-out has been done and all block layout track files are now verified against approved blocks and submitted to Domtar prior to harvest for approval. Inspection of harvest equipment during the field audit allowed to conclude that the equipment verified had the most up-to-date shape files available in the GPS units.
Criterion 6.6 Management systems shall promote the development and adoption of environmentally friendly non-chemical methods of pest management and strive to avoid the use of chemical pesticides.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	There are no prohibited chemicals on the Wabigoon Forest. The company has developed a Integrated Pest Management Strategy and is working through the Herbicide Alternatives Program to address potential herbicide options. Two opportunities for improvement were identified related to the herbicide reduction program.
Criterion 6.7 Chemicals, containers, liquid and solid non-organic wastes including fuel and oil shall be disposed of in an environmentally appropriate manner at off-site locations.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The environmental management system includes SOP's for handling of chemicals, including fuel, oil and herbicide. Training requirements are clearly defined and implemented. Verified training records as well as competency evaluation records for the forest workers interviewed during the field visit. Workplace hazardous materials information system 2015, Globally

	<p>Harmonized System.</p> <p>Minor NC was issued to indicator 6.1.7 about the cleaning and the reporting of spills.</p>
<p>Criterion 6.8 Use of biological control agents shall be documented, minimized, monitored and strictly controlled in accordance with national laws and internationally accepted scientific protocols. Use of genetically modified organisms shall be prohibited.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Domtar Inc does not use Biological agents on the Wabiggon Forest. The OMNRF will conduct pest management programs when deemed necessary.</p>
<p>Criterion 6.9 The use of exotic species is carefully controlled and actively monitored to avoid adverse ecological impacts.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>No use of exotic tree species on the Wabigoon.</p>
<p>Criterion 6.10 Forest conversion to plantations or non-forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion:</p> <p>a. Entails a very limited portion of the forest management unit; and</p> <p>b. Does not occur on high conservation value forest areas; (HCVF) and</p> <p>c. Will enable clear, sustainable, additional, secure long-term conservation benefits across the forest management unit.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There has not been any conversion of natural forests to plantations on the Wabigoon Forest. The audit team verified that no conversation has occurred in HCVF. HCVF are all identified as AOC and contains specific prescriptions.</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 7 MANAGEMENT PLAN</p>	
<p>Criterion 7.1 Content of management plan.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>The development of the Forest Management Plan included opportunities for input in phase 1 and in phase 2. The planning team Terms of Reference identified the Technical team composition and the Indigenous community groups. The phase 2 FMP included all the standard requirements and the plan was approved.</p>
<p>Criterion 7.2 The management plan shall be periodically revised to incorporate the results of monitoring or new scientific and technical information, as well as to respond to changing environmental, social and economic circumstances.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Routine monitoring of plan implementation is conducted and results are reported. The FMP is periodically updated according to the FMP planning cycle and through amendment. Next plan for Wabigoon forest will cover the period of 2019-2029</p>
<p>Criterion 7.3 Forest workers shall receive adequate training and supervision to ensure proper implementation of the management plan.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Verified 4.4.2.1 Competence, Training & Awareness Process. Purpose is to establish a process for ensuring the Forestlands employees, contractors (principals and employees) and suppliers have adequate skills and resources to conduct operations in accordance with the EMS and SFM.</p> <p>For Forestlands staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal training occurs on an ongoing basis . (i.e. at team meetings, business meetings). • Formal training occurs in the form of an annual EMS Certification Awareness Training session.

	<p>For Contractors (principals and employees):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal training occurs on an ongoing basis (i.e. tailgate meetings, start-up meetings, pre-work sessions). • Formal training occurs at annual EMS Certification Awareness Training sessions.
<p>Criterion 7.4 While respecting the confidentiality of information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the primary elements of the management plan, including those listed in Criterion 7.1.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>The Forest Management Plan, the Annual Work Schedule and Annual Reports are available on the MNR web site http://www.efmp.lrc.gov.on.ca/eFMP/home.do</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 8 MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT</p>	
<p>Criterion 8.1 Frequency and intensity of monitoring.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Monitoring program supports the objective for managing forest in a sustainable manner. Minor NC was issued to indicator 8.1.4 about the availability of the monitoring Plan for the Wabigoon Forest.</p>
<p>Criterion 8.2 Forest management should include the research and data collection needed to monitor, at a minimum, the following indicators: a) Yield of all forest products harvested. b) Growth rates, regeneration and condition of the forest. c) Composition and observed changes in the flora and fauna. d) Environmental and social impacts of harvesting and other operations. e) Costs, productivity, and efficiency of forest management.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Domtar has implemented a monitoring system where it controls and monitors a set of parameters related to environmental performance. MNR also ensure the monitoring and measurement of key forest indicators. Follow-up of cost, productivity and efficiency of forest management are carried out at different level and according to various frequencies.</p>
<p>Criterion 8.3 Documentation shall be provided by the forest manager to enable monitoring and certifying organizations to trace each forest product from its origin, a process known as the "chain of custody."</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>A documented procedure is in place to identify FSC-certified products and the forest of origin of such products leaving the management unit</p>
<p>Criterion 8.4 The results of monitoring shall be incorporated into the implementation and revision of the management plan.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>The results of monitoring are taken into consideration and incorporated the implementation and revision of the management plan 2019-2029 for the Wabigoon forest.</p>
<p>Criterion 8.5 While respecting the confidentiality of some information, forest managers shall make publicly available a summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>Information about the monitoring is compiled by Domtar. This includes several monitoring programs. Domtar staff remains available to assists the public in the interpretation of the information contained in those programs.</p>
<p>PRINCIPLE 9 HIGH CONSERVATION VALUE FORESTS</p>	
<p>Criterion 9.1 Assessment to determine the presence of the attributes consistent with High Conservation Value Forests will be completed, appropriate to the scale and intensity of forest management.</p>	
<p>Comments</p>	<p>An HCVF report has been prepared and was provided to an outside reviewer.</p>

(strengths/weakness)	Recently, Domtar changed their website, and this information was removed. Therefore, Domtar do not have a process to make the HCVF report and peer review reports available to the public. This issue was raised as a minor non-conformance.
Criterion 9.2 The consultative portion of the certification process must place emphasis on the identified conservation attributes, and options for the maintenance thereof.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	The HCVF Assessment Report is highlighted and discussed in meetings, correspondence and presentations to numerous parties with specific request for ongoing input and improvement. Letters were circulated and followed up with phone calls, emails and in some cases meetings.
Criterion 9.3 The management plan shall include and implement specific measures that ensure the maintenance and/or enhancement of the applicable conservation attributes consistent with the precautionary approach. These measures shall be specifically included in the publicly available management plan summary.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	In Ontario management strategies are developed, detailed and regulated through the Forest Management Planning process. As identified within the HCVF Report and associated Plans the HCVF management and monitoring approach reflects the precautionary principle. Resolute is working closely with FSC Canada and MNRF to understand and balance its obligations regarding Ontario Regulations and their commitment to meeting FSC expectations applicable to complex issues. The most current Wabigoon Forest, Forest Management Plan is publicly available from the MNRF eFMP website.
Criterion 9.4 Annual monitoring shall be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the measures employed to maintain or enhance the applicable conservation attributes.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	Effectiveness of protection measures is monitored by the applicant and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The monitoring program is design to made a re-evaluation to the measures taken to maintain or enhance the attribute if there is a risk to a specific conservation attribute.
PRINCIPLE10 – PLANTATIONS	
Criterion 10.1 The management objectives of the plantation, including natural forest conservation and restoration objectives, shall be explicitly stated in the management plan, and clearly demonstrated in the implementation of the plan.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition
Criterion 10.2 The design and layout of plantations should promote the protection, restoration and conservation of natural forests, and not increase pressures on natural forests. Wildlife corridors, streamside zones and a mosaic of stands of different ages and rotation periods, shall be used in the layout of the plantation, consistent with the scale of the operation. The scale and layout of plantation blocks shall be consistent with the patterns of forest stands found within the natural landscape.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition
Criterion 10.3 Diversity in the composition of plantations is preferred, so as to enhance economic, ecological and social stability. Such diversity may include the size and spatial distribution of management units within the landscape, number and genetic composition of species, age classes and structures.	
Comments (strengths/weakness)	There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition

<p>Criterion 10.4 The selection of species for planting shall be based on their overall suitability for the site and their appropriateness to the management objectives. In order to enhance the conservation of biological diversity, native species are preferred over exotic species in the establishment of plantations and the restoration of degraded ecosystems. Exotic species, which shall be used only when their performance is greater than that of native species, shall be carefully monitored to detect unusual mortality, disease, or insect outbreaks and adverse ecological impacts.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>
<p>Criterion 10.5 A proportion of the overall forest management area, appropriate to the scale of the plantation and to be determined in regional standards, shall be managed so as to restore the site to a natural forest cover.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>
<p>Criterion 10.6 Measures shall be taken to maintain or improve soil structure, fertility, and biological activity. The techniques and rate of harvesting, road and trail construction and maintenance, and the choice of species shall not result in long term soil degradation or adverse impacts on water quality, quantity or substantial deviation from stream course drainage patterns.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>
<p>Criterion 10.7 Measures shall be taken to prevent and minimize outbreaks of pests, diseases, fire and invasive plant introductions. Integrated pest management shall form an essential part of the management plan, with primary reliance on prevention and biological control methods rather than chemical pesticides and fertilizers. Plantation management should make every effort to move away from chemical pesticides and fertilizers, including their use in nurseries. The use of chemicals is also covered in Criteria 6.6 and 6.7.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>
<p>Criterion 10.8 Appropriate to the scale and diversity of the operation, monitoring of plantations shall include regular assessment of potential on-site and off-site ecological and social impacts (e.g., natural regeneration, effects on water resources and soil fertility, and impacts on local welfare and social well-being), in addition to those elements addressed in Principles 8, 6 and 4. No species should be planted on a large scale until local trials and/or experience have shown that they are ecologically well-adapted to the site, are not invasive, and do not have significant negative ecological impacts on other ecosystems. Special attention will be paid to social issues of land acquisition for plantations, especially the protection of local rights of ownership, use or access.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>
<p>Criterion 10.9 Plantations established in areas converted from natural forests after November 1994 normally shall not qualify for certification. Certification may be allowed in circumstances where sufficient evidence is submitted to the certification body that the manager/owner is not responsible directly or indirectly for such conversion.</p>	
<p>Comments (strengths/weakness)</p>	<p>There are no plantations on the forest as per the FSC definition</p>

4.1 Observations on review and resolution of complaint raised by stakeholder with the certificate holder or with the certification body since the previous evaluation

N/A

4.2 Summarized progress in implementing the conditions related to any approved pesticide derogation

N/A

5.0 TRACKING OF CERTIFIED FOREST PRODUCTS

5.1 Risk

There is a low risk designation for non-certified and uncontrolled wood being mixed with products from the evaluated area.

5.2 Control System

The control system is managed using the Bill of Lading system that identifies the following:

- Date
- Quantity
- Location
- Species
- Product

The Bill of Lading requirements are mandatory. The final point at which the products can be claimed to be sourced from the certified and controlled forest area is at the mill weigh scale through the Bill of Lading system.

6.0 ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR GROUP CERTIFICATIONS

N/A

7.0 CERTIFICATION DECISION

7.1 Follow-up on Non-Conformitie(s) from previous audit

NC#:	2017-01	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
9.1.1 The applicant undertakes efforts to, or makes use of existing efforts to, identify and map the presence of HCVs and HCVPs according to the assessment process in the National Framework (Appendix 4).			

Appendix 4, Category 2, question 7: Does the forest constitute or form part of a globally, nationally or regionally significant forest landscape that includes populations of most native species and sufficient habitat such that there is a high likelihood of long-term species persistence?	
Non-conformance:	
The applicant has not considered the regional contribution of small patches of intact forests in his HCVF assessment, more specifically the contribution of patches of forest adjacent to the Kenora and Whiskey Jack Forests	
Justification for Major or Minor:	
Minor: Impact is limited in time and/or scale	
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:	
The High Conservation Values Report has been revised to meet the requirements of the non-conforming situation. Specifically on Page 57 as part of Category 2, section 7, there is reference to the assessment methodology, results and designation decision with corresponding maps.	
Status:	Closed

NC#:	2017-02	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
9.4.2 The monitoring program is capable of alerting the applicant to changes in the status of a conservation attribute, and determining if the conservation measures are effective in maintaining or restoring the conservation attribute. The results of monitoring are assessed consistent with the monitoring requirements of Indicator 8.1.1. (8.1.1 The applicant has a comprehensive monitoring plan that outlines the parameters to be monitored, and the frequency, intensity, procedures, rationale, and responsibility for monitoring.) of the measure employed for maintenance or restoration of HCV and to follow trends.			
Non-conformance:			
Even though an HCV monitoring plan exist and monitoring is being performed according to the plan, the plan does not clearly outlines the parameters to be monitored (indicator, frequency, intensity, procedure, rationale and responsibility) as per indicator 8.1.1. In addition, results have not been gathered and summarized from the numerous entities responsible for the monitoring. This makes it difficult for the applicant to measure effectiveness			
Justification for Major or Minor:			
Minor: Does not result in a fundamental failure to meet the indicator			
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:			
Monitoring report and HCV reports have been updated and include the required information.			
Status:	Closed		

7.2 Non-Conformitie(s) issued during this audit

NC#:	2018-01	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
1.1.2 A system is in place whereby staff and others are kept up-to-date with new regulations and developments.			

Non-conformance:	
The applicant is not aware of regulations requirement on the storage, handling of DEF (Diesel Exhaust Fluid)	
Justification for Major or Minor:	
Minor: Temporary lapse	
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:	
Status:	Open

NC#:	2018-02	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
6.7.1 Ground rules or SOPs related to handling of chemicals, liquid and solid non-organic wastes, including fuel and oil, are in place and are being implemented. The management standards required by the SOPs are consistent with high levels of performance and include best management practices. At a minimum, the SOPs address:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection, storage, and disposal of waste in an environmentally appropriate manner and according to applicable regulations; • Adherence to the waste recycling program; • Measures to prevent spills; • Emergency plans for cleanup and treatment of any injuries following spills or other accidents; and • Prohibition of the littering of any materials. 			
Non-conformance:			
Spills have not been picked-up. SOP related to spill quantities to be reported does not meet the legal requirement.			
Justification for Major or Minor:			
Minor: Unusual/non-systematic problem			
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:			
Status:	Open		

NC#:	2018-03	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
8.1.4 The monitoring plan is readily available to the public.			
Non-conformance:			
Although the monitoring plan is made available upon request. There is no direction/indication to the general public on the main Domtar website that the monitoring plan for the Wabigoon forest is readily available.			
Justification for Major or Minor:			
Minor: Temporary lapse			
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:			
Status:	Open		

NC#:	2018-04	Grade:	Minor
Requirement:			
9.1.3 The applicant ensures that a credible outside review is undertaken and makes the assessment document(s), associated maps, and outside review report available to the public.			
Non-conformance:			
There is no direction/indication to the general public that the HCVF report for the Wabigoon forest is readily available.			
Justification for Major or Minor:			
Minor: Temporary lapse			
Evidence provided to close the non-conformity:			
Status:	Open		

7.3 History of Non-conformities

NC #	Indicator	I/RR	S1	S2	S3	S4
2018-01	1.1.2	minor				
2018-02	6.7.1	minor				
2018-03	8.1.4	minor				
2018-04	9.1.3	minor				

7.4 Positives

- Protection of AOC C107
- Avenza apps used by one contractor

7.5 Element difficult to assess

No issues were hard to assess.

7.6 Observations on elements to be followed at the next audit.

N/A

7.7 Certification Decision Statement

Reregistration audit

Domtar Inc has demonstrated, subject to the correction of the non-conformities, that the described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest area covered by the scope of the certificate with the exception of the non-conformance(s)

identified during the audit and documented in the attached Non-conformance Report(s). As discussed during the closing meeting, please submit a root cause analysis and an action plan for approval within 30 days for both the major and minor non-conformances. Major non-conformance(s) must be closed within 90 days. Implementation of corrective actions for Minor non-conformance(s) will be reviewed at the time of the first surveillance audit or at the latest 12 months after the NC reports have been issued.

A recommendation to maintain the registration is on hold pending the receipt, review and acceptance of the corrective action plan for all non-conformances and the closure of the major non-conformance(s).

8.0 COMPLAINTS, DISPUTES AND APPEALS

On receiving a complaint the relevant details are recorded on a complaint register by the person receiving the complaint.

A SAI Global person is responsible for the handling of complaints/appeals, and forwards the complaint on to the respective Manager in charge of SAI Global FSC Program for resolution.

An initial response, including an outline of the proposed course of action to follow up on the complaint, will be sent within two (2) weeks of receiving the complaint.

SAI Global will keep the complainants informed of progress in evaluating the complaint. An investigation of the allegations and all its proposed actions in response to the complaint/appeal will be dealt within three (3) months of receiving the appeal. Upon completion of the investigation a full report of the investigation and its findings are then sent to the complainant.

Full implementation of actions and confirmation of implementation (e.g. correction and closing out of non-compliances that may have been identified as a result of the complaint) outlined in the final report will be completed.

SAI Global ensures that the persons engaged in the appeals, complaints and disputes handling processes are different from those who carried out the audits, made the certification decisions and the day to day implementation.

If the issue has not been resolved through the full implementation of SAI Global's procedures the person or organization raising the complaint/dispute/appeal has the opportunity to refer their complaint/dispute/appeal to FSC's dispute resolution process.

9.0 NEXT AUDIT

Next Scheduled Audit: Surveillance1

Date: June 2019

END OF REPORT

APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF STAKEHOLDERS

This is a confidential document. The list is on file with SAI Global

APPENDIX 2 – FSC DATABASE MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SHEET

Instructions:

1. Auditor shall check the FSC database annually (info.fsc.org) to ensure the information is up-to-date and match information provided in this report.
2. If the FSC database needs to be updated, please indicate in the table below with an **X** the type of changes require and document briefly the changes as well as where the information can be found.

Type of update required	X	Comment and indicate where the information is found (e.g. audit report)
Main address		
Website address		
Contact person info	x	CIS
Total certified area	x	CIS
Group member/Sites list		
Product Types		
Species list		
FSC claim		
AAF class		
Others (specify)		