



Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd.
Sustainable Forest Management System
Westbank, British Columbia

Audit Coverage:

- During the period September 25th to September 26th, 2008, QMI-SAI Global conducted a twenty four (24) month Surveillance Audit of Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. Okanagan Sustainable Forest Management System to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard. The audit took 2.5 audit-days to complete.
- The Audit Team consisted of Ken Hall RFT., EMS(LA), CEA(SFM) as the Lead Auditor and Will Sloan RFT, EMS(LA) as the Team Member.
- The audit assessed pre and post harvest operations in the Okanagan DFA operating area. This entailed site visits with Gorman Bros. Woodlands staff and members of the Public Advisory Group (PAG), verifying conformance with operational planning requirements and confirming the status of SFM Indicator performance for forest related Indicators.
- SFM Indicator performance was assessed through interviews with staff at the Westbank office and a review of the applicable SFM Indicator documentation.

Background:

- The Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. Okanagan SFM system has been registered to the CAN/CSA Z809 Standard since spring 2007. This registration is supported by an Environmental Management System registered to the ISO 14001 Standard since 2002.
- The Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. Okanagan EMS system has undergone annual 3rd party surveillance audits since the date of initial registration.
- The Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. Okanagan SFM Defined Forest Area is located in the Okanagan Timber Supply Area in the British Columbia Interior.



Photo #1: Plantation declared free to grow includes planted pine and spruce as well as naturals where ever possible.

Positive Aspects:

The Audit Team observed the following positive management practices:

- Gorman Bros. provides hand-held weather stations to its logging contractors so they can monitor actual weather on their operations. Good working relationship with local MOF.
- The audit noted good road construction and maintenance practices.
- Gorman Bros. Bucking Guidelines with color pictures of examples of what the operators are to watch for when processing logs.
- Gorman Bros. web site has a solicitation to join the PAG and provides an e-mail contact to do so.
- Gorman Bros. field training day attended by staff and members of the PAG for Indicator #13; Sediment Control.

Areas of Non-conformance (NCR):

There were no areas of non conformance identified during the course of this audit.



Photo #2: A mix of single tree and group retention wildlife tree patches within the block, stub trees created for habitat and advanced regen is protected during the harvesting phase and will make up part of the next rotation. Good coarse woody debris quantity and disbursement throughout the block. Note the plantation adjacent to the block has reached green up and beyond is dead mature stands of pine as a result of the mountain pine beetle infestation.

CAN/CSA Z809 :2002 Surveillance Audit

Non-conformance.....	0
Areas of Concern.....	0
Opportunities for Improvement / Recommendations.....	7
Positive Aspects.....	5

Non-conformance (NCR):

A systemic failure of the Program Participant's EMS/SFM system to meet an EMS/SFM objective, performance measure or indicator.

Area of Concern (AOC):

An isolated lapse in EMS/SFM system implementation which does not indicate a systemic failure to consistently meet an EMS/SFM objective, performance measure or indicator.

All non-conformance require an action plan within 30 days. Non-conformance must be addressed by the operation or registration cannot be achieved / maintained.

Opportunities for Improvement (OFI):

Are isolated observations that are non-critical to the achievement / maintenance of EMS/SFM objectives.

Positive Aspects

Are features of the EMS/SFM system that are considered as

Audit Recommendation:

The results of the twelve (12) month Surveillance Audit indicate that the Management System of Gorman Bros. Lumber Ltd. is suitable and effective and will be recommended for continued registration to the CAN/CSA-Z809-2002 Standard.

Opportunities for Improvement (OFI):

- 7.5.4 - Internal Audits: Consider increasing the number of Indicators reviewed in a year as part of the Internal Audit Process.
- 7.2(a) - Sustainable Forest Management Policy: Consider including specific language in the corporate EMS/SFM Policy to state that the organization is committed to achieving and maintaining SFM.
- 5.2(f) - Interested Parties: The organization and/or their PAG Facilitator should consider identifying those PAG members that "want to attend the meeting however were unable to attend the meeting". This may lead to scheduling changes to accommodate individuals that have conflicts.
- 7.3.6.1(29): The organization should consider re-wording the Indicator to better align with the Objective. Currently there is a misalignment between the two.
- 6.1/7.3.4 - Rights and Regulations: Consider tracking First Nation treaty status through the Federal and Provincial on-line treaty status tracking/reporting systems.
- 5.2(d)/7.3.6.1 - Interested Parties: Consider adding an indicator regarding out-reach to First Nations to try and get more participation by FN in the SFM process.
- 7.4.6(e) - Operational control: Consider reviewing with contractors the requirement to conduct site safety orientations when visitors come on to active operations.



Photo #3: Gorman Bros. provides hand-held weather stations to its logging contractors so they can monitor actual weather on their operations. Alvin Bone (AICRIS Contracting) holding a *Kestrel Weather Meter* demonstrated the stations use and a review of the Fire Watch Journal kept by the contractor showed it to be complete (3 times per day). This allows for site specific decisions regarding fire weather shut downs to be made. This is the first time the audit team has encountered this type of unique weather tracking equipment in the field.