Corrective Action Verification Audit (CVA) Report

Organization: Fédération des Organismes de Gestion en Commun du Bas-St-Laurent (FOGCBSSL)
Cert/Ver/Val Code: RA-FM/COC-005023
Report Date: February 25, 2015

I. AUDIT PROCESS

Auditor, Qualifications: Nicolas Lecomte, Biol. Ph.D
Lead Auditor, responsible for environmental issues
Nicolas Lecomte is the President of Valeur Nature (a company that focuses in scientific communication and developing ecotourism). He specializes in forest ecology and has a doctorate in environmental sciences from the University du Quebec. Nicolas has also received a baccalaureate in Ecology and Evolution from the University of Western Ontario and a Masters of Advanced Studies from the University of Montpellier II in France in the same discipline. His doctorate focused on the study of forest dynamics in the long-term absence of fire in the West spruce-moss as well as the influence of the severity of the last fire in relation to the evolution of established stands after fire. For the past 10 years, Mr. Lecomte has mainly focused on sustainable forest management. Mr. Lecomte is a commissioner on the Commission of Natural Resources in the Territory of the Bay James, he is administrator in the Economic Development Corporation of Villebois, VAI Paradis and Beaucanton. Mr. Lecomte has been a SmartWood auditor since 2007 and has performed more than twenty audits both in the boreal forests and the deciduous forests of Quebec and Ontario.

Audit Date(s): February 5-25, 2015
CVA Type: Desk review ☒ On-site ☐ Location(s):

Audit Overview: The applicant has provided evidence for the week of February 10th. In a first analysis by the auditor and discussions with the applicant, some details summers have made to the document to clarify information presented. The final document was revised as of February 24, 2015.

Changes to Scope since last Audit: No

II. NON-CONFORMITY REPORT (NCR) EVALUATION
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR NCR #</th>
<th>03/13</th>
<th>Classification of NC :</th>
<th>Major X</th>
<th>Minor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Standard &amp; indicator:</td>
<td>Rainforest Alliance standard locally adapted for the evaluation of forest management in the Great Lakes / Saint-Laurent region, with modifications to accommodate small and low intensity managed forests (SLIMFs) - August 2010, Indicator 8.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Report section:</td>
<td></td>
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### Description of Nonconformance and Related Evidence:

#### Standard requirement:

“[…] The managers must provide a public summary of the results of monitoring indicators, including those listed in Criterion 8.2.”

#### Finding:

The applicant produced a summary of the current portrait with some references to the terms and conditions in place. This document cannot be considered as a summary of the results of environmental monitoring indicators as required by the standard. This portrait presents no target related to portrait indicators, or a gap between the targets and the data collected. Moreover the results of several indicators on the interventions’ scale (e.g. the retention quantity after clearcutting) are not found in this summary. This NCR may not be closed and is thus upgraded to a major with a time limit of 3 months.

#### Evidence considered:

- ObjectifsMngtFOGC2014-2024.pdf
- Interviews with the OGCs

#### Corrective action request:

Organization shall implement corrective actions to demonstrate conformance with the requirement(s) referenced above.  
Note: Effective corrective actions focus on addressing the specific occurrence described in evidence above, as well as the root cause to eliminate and prevent recurrence of the nonconformance.

#### Timeline for conformance:

3 months prior to report closure, being February 5, 2015

#### Evidence provided by organization:

- Bulletin environnemental FOGCBSL 23-02-2015.xls

#### Finding after reviewing evidence:

Since the last audit, the applicant produced an environmental report for the certified territory that summarizes the results of environmental monitoring indicators. This document is available at the office of the various OGC (Organisme de Gestion en Commun) and will be included in the annual general meeting specifications of each OGC and that of FOGCBSL. In this document, we find tables informing the public in regards to the current status of the forest in terms of composition and stand age. These tables, including the targets for these parameters, also provide an overview to the public of the status of the desired forest in the longer term. Other tables of this environmental bulletin summarize the public forest activities of the past year. Among other things, this bulletin shows the percentage of total or partial cuts having benefited from retention approaches, the amount of total or partial cuts undertaken in the territory, the average size of these cuts, etc.

This environmental bulletin, providing an overview to the public

1) Of the current forest state at the certificate level
2) Of the longer-term desired forest state at the certificate level and
3) Of environmental monitoring results in relation to forestry activities taking place within the certificate during the past year,

allow the applicant to meet the requirements of this indicator. The NCR can be closed.
### III. CONCLUSIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCRs Closed:</th>
<th>☒ No follow-up required related to closed NCRs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Original NCRs closed and new NCR(s) issued, see section IV below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCRs Open:</td>
<td>☐ Certification/Verification/Validation not approved; conformance with NCRs required</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Major NCRs not closed; suspension of certification/verification required</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ Minor NCRs are upgraded to Major; see section IV below</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>☐ New NCR(s) issued, see section IV below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments/Follow-up Actions:** None

### IV. OPEN NCRs

**NCRs still open:**

### V. AUDIT REPORT APPROVAL

*Note:* a formal Q-09 Report Review and Approval (RRA) Checklist conducted by an independent, authorized reviewer is required when the CVA results in certificate/verification/validation issuance or suspension/termination, or when there is a change in scope. In all other cases, the report may be approved with the 2nd checkbox below by an authorized RRA reviewer which may be the CVA auditor, or by a Senior Auditor.

- ☐ Refer to separate Q-09 RRA Checklist
- ☒ Report approved by way of this checkbox

**Approved by:** Yves Bouthillier (training) and Mylène Raimbault

**Date:** February 25, 2015

- ☒ Salesforce has been completed with applicable files uploaded, and is updated based on any changes to the Organization details or other areas relevant to the CVA.