



# Surveillance Audit Report

2010-2014 Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Standard

November 24, 2014

**A. Michigan Department of Natural Resources**

**FRS #5Y031**

**B. Scope:**  No Change     Changed

SFI Objectives 1-7 and 14-20 on approximately 4 million acres of Michigan State Forest. Exclusions: Long-term military lease lands, lands leased to Luce County, and Wildlife Areas that do not go through the compartment review process are not included in the scope of the certificate. The SFI Certificate Number is NSF-SFIS-5Y031.

Note: The certified State Forest system includes all lands which are inventoried under either the Operations Inventory or IFMAP forest inventory systems, are identified in a State Forest Compartment, and go through the Michigan DNR compartment review process.

**C. NSF Audit Team:** Lead Auditor: Norman Boatwright

FSC Auditor: Kyle Meister

**D. Audit Dates:** October 7-9, 2014

**E. Reference Documentation:**

2010-2014 SFI Standard®; Michigan DNR SFI Documentation: Forest Certification Work Instructions (Complete Set), The Eastern and Western Upper Peninsula Forest Management Plans 2013 and many other miscellaneous documents

**F. Audit Results: Based on the results at this visit, the auditor concluded**

- Acceptable with no nonconformances; or
- Acceptable with minor nonconformances to be corrected before the next scheduled audit visit;
- Not acceptable with one or two major nonconformances - corrective action required;
- Several major nonconformances - certification may be canceled unless immediate action is taken

**G. Changes to Operations or to the SFI Standard:**

Are there any significant changes in operations, procedures, specifications, FRS, etc. from the previous visit?  Yes     No    Note: Changes focused on responding to CARs and OFIs; transition” of recreational facility management from FRD to PRD;

**H. Other Issues Reviewed:**

- Yes     No    Public report from previous audit(s) is posted on SFB web site.
- Yes     No     N.A.    SFI and other relevant logos or labels are utilized correctly.
- Yes     No    The program is a Multi-site Organization:

*Multi-Site Organization: A n organization having an identified central function (hereafter referred to as a central office — but not necessarily the headquarters of the organization) at which certain activities are planned, controlled or managed and a network of local offices or branches (sites) at which such activities are fully or partially carried out.*

Source: SFI Requirements, Section 9, Appendix: Audits of Multi-Site Organizations

IAF-MD1 or  The alternate approach outlined in SFI Requirements, Section 9, Appendix 1 was assessed by NSF's Lead Auditor during the certification audit.

Yes  No Concerns/ issues are listed in the checklist  
(if yes these are to be reviewed by NSF Forestry Program Manager)

### **I. Corrective Action Requests:**

No Corrective Action Requests were issued this visit (through NSF's on-line OASIS audit tool):

2013 Corrective Action Requests reviewed and resolved during this visit:

1. Felling trees into 2 vernal pools and removing a significant portion of the canopy around the pools (CIs 3.1.1 and 3.2.4)
2. Failure to complete the Living Legacies initiative in a timely manner (CI 4.1.5)

See the Public Summary Report for a complete explanation of the CAR closures.

At the conclusion of this Surveillance Audit visit, the following CARs remain open:

MAJOR(S): 0 MINOR(S): 0 and no Opportunities for Improvement (OFIs) were identified.

### **H. Future Audit Schedule:**

Annual or follow-up audits are required by the 2010-2014 Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard ®. The next surveillance audit is scheduled for the week of October 5, 2015. The assigned lead auditor will contact you 2-3 months prior to this date to reconfirm and begin preparations. Recertification must be completed before January 2, 2017. Michigan DNR is considered to be a multi-site organization; the sampling plan requires audits of the central function and at least 3 of the 15 Forest Management Units during surveillance audit years, but 4 units during re-certification years.

### **Appendices:**

Appendix I: Surveillance Notification Letter and Audit Schedule

Appendix II: Public Surveillance Audit Report

Appendix III: Audit Matrix

Appendix IV: Field Sites & Meeting Attendees

Appendix V: SFI Reporting Form (not included a there are no changes)

## Appendix I



# Surveillance Notification Letter and Audit Schedule



**September 24, 2014**

Re: Confirmation of 2014 SFI and FSC Surveillance Audits, Michigan DNR

David Price - MI DNR Forest Resources Division  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Forest, Mineral, and Fire Management Division  
1990 US-41 South, Marquette, MI 49855

Dear Mr. Price:

We are scheduled to conduct the Annual Surveillance Audits of the Michigan DNR on Tuesday October 7 to Thursday October 9, 2014. This is a partial review of your SFI Program to confirm that it continues to be in conformance with the SFI Standard and that continual improvement is being made. The audit also includes a similar review of the FSC Requirements. The FSC audit will be described in more detail in a separate document.

The audit team will consist of Norman Boatwright, NSF Lead Auditor and Kyle Mister, SCS Lead Auditor.

We have worked together to develop the following tentative schedule:

Audit Plan  
2014 SFI and FSC Surveillance Audit  
Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
October 7-9, 2014

**Monday October 6, 2014 – Travel Day**

Norman Boatwright and Kyle Meister arrive in Sault Ste. Marie and transit to Newberry vis DNR Staff

**Tuesday October 7, 2014 – Newberry FMU**

7:30 am Depart Hotel (No drive)  
8:00 am Opening Meeting – Status of 2013 CARs and major DNR initiatives  
9:00 am District Overview and Issues  
9:30 am Newberry FMU Overview and Update  
10:00 am Prepare for field  
10:30 am - 5 pm Field\*: Two audit teams  
5:00 pm Return to Hotel  
Evening Auditors Dinner at Gerald Grossman's home

**Wednesday October 8, 2014 – Shingleton FMU**

6:45 am Depart Hotel (45 minute drive)  
8:00 am Shingleton FMU Overview and Update  
8:30 am Prepare for field  
9:00 am – 5 pm Field\*: Two audit teams  
5:00 pm Transit to Escanaba  
Evening Dinner and daily briefing

**Thursday October 9, 2014 – Escanaba FMU**

7:30 am Depart Hotel (5-10 minute drive)  
8:00 am District Overview and Issues  
8:30 am Escanaba FMU Overview and Update  
9:00 am Prepare for field  
9:30 am – 3 pm Field\*: Two audit teams  
3:00 pm Audit Team discussions; possible additional information request  
4:00 pm Closing meeting – Escanaba Field Office  
5:00 pm Auditors return hotel for Friday morning departure

\* Lunch will be in the field each day of the audit

**FSC Program:** Provided separately.

**Both Programs:**

- A review of the outstanding findings from the 2013 Recertification Audit (2 minor CARs for SFI)
- Review of any changes within DNR (e.g., staffing, land acquisitions, planning documents) that are pertinent to the certification.

- Evidence will include documents, interviews, and observations

**SFI Tasks and Audit Focus Areas for 2014:**

Review progress on achieving SFI objectives and performance measures and continual improvement and the results of the management review of your SFI Program; there were two SFI Minor Non-conformances issued in 2013:

1. Previous Findings: *Core Indicators 3.1.1 (BMP implementation) and 3.2.4 (protection of non-forested wetlands)*. The site visit to the active Russell Lake Aspen timber sale (sale #71-005 Roscommon FMU) identified BMP issues on 2 vernal ponds in an area that had recently been harvested (the ponds were not painted out). Two (2) trees were cut and dropped in one (1) of the ponds and approximately 80% of the tree canopy around both ponds was removed. The MIDNR BMP manual “*Sustainable Soil and Water Quality Practices on Forest Land*” (Rev. 2/24/2009) on page 29 under the Vernal Pools, Seeps, and Intermittent Steams Section, states: “All equipment, trees and tops should be kept out of this area” and “Timber harvesting can occur in the area, but the canopy closure should not be reduced to less than 70% to minimize the effect of sun and wind”. A larger vernal pond in the harvested area had been painted out and had no issues.
2. *Core Indicator 4.1.5 (landscape level habitat management)*. The Living Legacies initiative (formerly the Biodiversity Conservation Planning Process) has suffered from numerous delays since at least 2008. Completion of the initiative, including key tasks such as delineating Living Legacy areas on the state forests and identifying compatible land uses for them, has not been accomplished.

- Review logo and/or label use;
- Confirm public availability of public reports;
- Evaluate the multi-site requirements;
- Field reviews covering most aspects of SFI Objectives 2-7; and
- Review all of the non-field components of your SFI program per these Performance Measures:

- Objective 1. Forest Management Planning
- Objective 14. Legal and Regulatory Compliance
- Objective 16. Training and Education
- Objective 18: Public Land Management Responsibilities
- Objective 19. Communications and Public Reporting
- Objective 20. Management Review and Continual Improvement

**Multi-Site Sampling Plan**

The DNR is being audited as a multi-site organization per “Requirements for the SFI 2010-2014 Program: Standards, Rules for Label Use, Procedures, and Guidance, Section 9, Annex 1”. There are 15 Forest Management Units. This Surveillance Audit must cover the requirements of the central organization and three of the units selected: Newberry FMU, Shingleton FMU and the Escanaba FMU. These sites were selected based on proximity and due to length of time since previous audits.

### **Logistics**

- We should plan to have lunch on site to expedite the visit.
- We will travel in your vehicle(s) each day during the audit.
- We ask that you provide hardhats.

### **Field Site Selections**

We randomly selected initial sites and you have provided additional suggested sites and developed an itinerary that seems appropriate. On the day of each site audit we would ask your local forestry staff to tell us about any sales that are being worked at that time, and we would add one or two of these if possible. Thus there may be more sites than we can get to, so the lead auditors will help shorten the list if needed.

### **Documentation Requested**

When we arrive each day please provide documentation for the selected sites as was done during the certification audit (maps, project descriptions, and at least one example contract per day). The team must review the Timber Sale Contract Field Inspection Report, R-4050 for any sales visited where harvesting has been done or completed. We also need copies of the compartment plans and any other information that would help us determine conformance to the certification requirements and closure of the CARs. Please email some of this material in advance.

In addition please provide:

- Documentation for Internal Audit Reports and Management Review
- Harvest levels vs. planned (SFI Indicator 1.1.2)
- Revised procedures or work instructions
- Any other information that would be helpful to show conformance

The tentative schedule should be reviewed by all participants. This schedule can be adapted either in advance or on-site to accommodate any special circumstances. If you have any questions regarding this planned audit, please contact either of us.

Sincerely yours,

*Norman Boatwright*

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## Appendix II



### **2014 Michigan DNR SFI Public Summary Surveillance Audit Report**

The SFI Program of the Michigan DNR has achieved continuing conformance with the SFI Standard®, 2010-2014 Edition, according to the NSF-ISR SFIS Certification Audit Process.

NSF-ISR initially certified Michigan DNR to the SFIS in 2005 and recertified the organization on November 9, 2010 and again on October 11, 2013. This report describes the first annual follow-up surveillance audit designed to focus on changes in the standard, changes in operations and practices, the management review system, and efforts to resolve past non-conformances and to respond to identified “Opportunities for Improvement”. In addition, a subset of SFI requirements were selected for detailed review this year, including all of the land management requirements (Objectives 1-7) and Objectives 14, 16, 18, 19, and 20.

The surveillance audit was performed by NSF-ISR on October 7-9, 2014 by an audit team headed by Norman Boatwright, Lead Auditor supported by Kyle Meister, who led the simultaneous FSC Annual Audit. Audit team members fulfill the qualification criteria for conducting SFIS Certification Audits of “Section 9. SFI 2010-2014 Audit Procedures and Auditor Qualifications and Accreditation” contained in Requirements for the SFI 2010-2014 Program: Standards, Rules for Label Use, Procedures, and Guidance.

The objective of the audit was to assess conformance of the firm’s SFI Program to the requirements of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Standard, 2010-2014 Edition.

The scope of the SFIS Audit included land management operations. Forest practices that were the focus of field inspections included those that have been conducted since the previous field audit conducted in October 2013. Practices conducted earlier were also reviewed as appropriate (regeneration and BMP issues, for example). In addition, a subset of SFI obligations to promote sustainable forestry practices, to ensure appropriate training of people involved in the forest management program, to seek legal compliance, and to incorporate continual improvement systems were reexamined during the audit. Use of the SFI logo and the requirement to provide public access to audit reports were also reviewed.

The audit reviewed the central management and field practices at three of the fifteen Forest Management Units (FMUs): Newberry FMU, Shingleton FMU, and Escanaba FMU.

As with the initial certification, several of the SFI Performance Measures were outside of the scope of Michigan DNR's SFI program and were excluded from the scope of the SFI Certification Audit as follows:

- Indicator 2.1.4 involving planting exotic species
- Indicator 2.1.7 involving planting non-forested areas
- Indicator 3.2.5 involving situations where the state lacks BMPs
- Objectives 8 through 13 for procurement

None of the indicators were modified; the SFI 2010-2014 Standard's relevant indicators and performance measures were used as published (available on-line at <http://www.sfiprogram.org/>).

### **Scope**

SFI Objectives 1-7 and 14-20 on approximately 3.9 million acres of Michigan State Forest. Exclusions: Long-term military lease lands, lands leased to Luce County, and Wildlife Areas that do not go through the compartment review process are not included in the scope of the certificate. The SFI Certificate Number is NSF-SFIS-5Y031.

### **Overview of Michigan DNR's Lands and Sustainable Forestry Programs**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources Forest Resources Division (FRD) and Wildlife Division (WD) co-manage the approximately 4 million Michigan State Forest System. The certified State Forest system includes all lands which are inventoried under the IFMAP or MiFI forest inventory systems, are identified in a State Forest Compartment, and go through the Michigan DNR compartment review process.

The FRD has organized the State Forest system into 15 forest management units which constitute the sampling units for the multi-site audit sampling program employed by NSF, the SFI Certification Body. These units are the basis of the internal audits conducted by Michigan DNR that serve to help drive continuous improvement in the programs.

Excerpts from Michigan DNR documents (updated as necessary with newer information and references) provide the remainder of this overview.

Source: Michigan State Forest Management Plan, April 10, 2008

“A primary management objective for the landscape of northern Michigan during the 20th century was to restore the forest resource that was devastated from over-exploitation in the late 19th century. This restoration has laid the basis for a rich array of opportunities for our forests in the 21st century.

Michigan's forests are healthy and still growing, with many options for future uses. There are multiple objectives for our forests, including continuing with use and restoration within a framework of long-term sustainability, while also enabling an expanding diversity of uses. This plan is intended to focus on future management and use of one large part of Michigan's forest

resources: the 3.9 million acre state forest system administered by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

Part 525, Sustainable Forestry on State Forest Lands, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, requires the MDNR to manage the state forest in a manner that is consistent with the principles of sustainable forestry, and to prepare and implement a management plan that states long-term management objectives and the means of achieving these objectives. Components of the management plan include:

1. Identification of the interests of local communities, outdoor recreation interests, the tourism industry, and the forest products industry, which are addressed in Section 3 of the plan.
2. Identification of the annual production capability of the state forest and management goals based on that level of productivity, which are addressed in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the plan.
3. Methods to promote and encourage the use of the state forest for outdoor recreation, tourism, and the forest products industry, which are addressed in Sections 3, 4 and 5 of the plan.
4. A landscape management plan for the state forest incorporating biodiversity conservation goals, indicators, and measures, which are addressed in Sections 4 and 5 of the plan.
5. Standards for sustainable forestry consistent with section 52502 of Part 525, which are addressed in Sections 4 and 5 of the plan.
6. Identification of environmentally sensitive areas, which is addressed in Sect. 5 of the plan.
7. Identification of the need for forest treatments to maintain and sustain healthy, vigorous forest vegetation and quality habitat for wildlife and environmentally sensitive species, which are addressed in Sections 4 and 5 of the plan.

Part 525 also required the MDNR to seek and maintain third party certification of the management of the state forest that satisfies sustainable forestry standards of at least one credible certification program. Subsequently, the MDNR was certified under the standards of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI).

FY 2013 state forest harvests was 55,922 acres, producing 753,169 cords. Timber harvest trends differ by species. The current conditions and trends for the state forest as a whole indicate that the annual production capacity for timber harvests will remain similar to what it has been or slightly increase. Harvests have predominantly occurred in five cover types: the aspen association, jack pine, the oak association, red pine, and northern hardwoods. Some significant trends can be noted since the mid-1990s for aspen, northern hardwoods, red pine, white pine and mixed swamp conifers. Due to intensive harvests in the late 1980s and early 1990s, the number of acres of aspen sold gradually decreased after 1997 and reached a low in 2003. Throughout this period, aspen volumes per acre remained steady at close to 20 cords per acre.

Volume of production from the northern hardwoods, red pine, and white pine cover types have increased since 1996. In contrast, production from mixed swamp conifers has dropped off sharply beginning in 2001, in part reflecting changes in cover type coding. Thus, the composition of timber sales has changed over the past decade, with the most significant change being more acres of selectively-harvested upland hardwoods sold as the number of clear-cut aspen acres declined. This tradeoff has resulted in less volume harvested per acre.

Major trends in forest health include increasing numbers of both native and nonnative insects and diseases, cervid herbivory effects on understory composition and regeneration, and the emerging environmental issue of global climate change. Some epidemic nonnative pathogens such as Dutch elm disease, the emerald ash borer and beech bark disease pose threats across the entire landscape of the state. Others are more localized in the range of their effect. The current management strategy is to contain and eradicate newly identified pathogens; however, some agents are now securely entrenched into ecosystems of the state. The effects of cervid herbivory (deer, moose, and elk) upon the composition and structure (particularly regeneration) of herbaceous and shrub strata of forest ecosystems are becoming an increasing concern. Global climate change due to global warming has the potential to disrupt the natural composition, function, and health of native ecosystems. It could affect the range of native plant and animal species, and could potentially interact with other forest health threats by causing environmental stressors (such as the incidence and severity of drought) that can in turn trigger outbreaks of insect and disease infestations. All of these pose increasing threats to the health of the state's forest ecosystems, which may be expressed by potential major ecological changes in the composition of native forest communities and substantial economic effects.

Forest recreation is now trending toward year-round use, as the popularity increases for spring activities such as fishing for migratory steelhead, wild Turkey and mushroom hunting, and off-road vehicle (ORV) riding and for many winter sports such as snowmobiling, skiing, and ice fishing. This diversified activity provides year-round benefits to many local economies that were previously more seasonal in nature. General trends from various data sources indicate that hunting, fishing, and power boating recreation are relatively static or declining. Specifically, the trend of dispersed hunting recreation can be seen in the number of hunting license holders, which has been steadily decreasing over the past decade. Conversely, wildlife viewing, ORV, and snowmobile riding have grown in the past decade. The use of state forest campgrounds has been relatively stable over the past four years, with most use occurring in the Northern Lower Peninsula Ecoregion.

Unbalanced age-class distributions in early successional forest types are continuing relative “booms and busts” of wildlife populations that are dependent upon these habitats. This will continue for some time until the age class distributions are much more balanced...”

#### Excerpts from Michigan Department of Natural Resources Request for Proposals

##### **Status of Current Operations Systems**

Michigan's current system of management and operational planning includes a computerized forest inventory that is updated annually for approximately one-tenth of the State Forest area. There are two inventory systems in place, an older technology called Integrated Forest Monitoring, Assessment and Prescription (IFMAP), and a new technology termed Michigan Forest Inventory (MiFI). Both IFMAP and MiFI are GIS-based inventory systems that provide tracking of a wide range of resource variables, treatment activities, and conditions.

Likewise, timber sale treatments are proposed and tracked in a computerized system known as the Vegetative Management System (VMS) that is also in the process of being

rewritten and updated to improve functionality. Treatments and other management actions tracked in both these systems are proposed, reviewed, and approved in a formal process with formalized policies, procedures, and approvals that involve an increasing amount of public involvement at various levels from proposal through treatment completion. These efforts are ongoing at this time.

### **Status of Planning**

The Annual Plan of Work is derived from the 10-year planning cycle for forest compartments. The Annual plan of work is operationally implemented by Operations Inventory and Compartment Review Procedures, as contained in Forest, Resources Division (FRD) Policy and Procedure 441 dated January 10, 2000. Annual compartment reviews by year of entry are conducted at the Forest Management Unit level, and the aggregate of all forest prescriptions from compartment reviews are contained in the Annual Plan of Work, which represents the tactical level of planning for State Forest operations.

Approved Regional State Forest Management Plans for the Northern Lower, Eastern Upper, and Western Upper Peninsula ecoregions are being implemented in the current year of entry compartment review process. The MDNR has many other plans that are related to specific program areas, including the Michigan's Wildlife Action Plan, the Michigan Off-Road Vehicle Plan, the Michigan State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Natural River plans, and others.

### **Policy & Procedures**

Formal policies and procedures exist and are documented in policy manuals for MDNR-FRD and Wildlife Division, as well as other Department of Natural Resources policies. These are not all maintained in an up-to-date condition, and some gaps likely exist vis-a-vis forest certification standards. The MDNR forest certification internet site has links to MDNR policy and procedure and other information related to this RFP (see "Forest Certification Audits") at: [http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-30301\\_33360---.00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-30301_33360---.00.html)

### **Forest Certification Work Instructions**

Work instructions are new or updated Department operational procedures initially developed in 2005 that helped close the forest certification gaps at that time and ensured compliance with all indicators in the forest certification standards. All proposed actions identified in the Department's Forest Certification Action Plan were implemented through 21 work instructions.

Work instruction implementation is an important focus of the MDNR's management review system, and is an important focus of MDNR internal audits. The work instructions make forest certification more manageable for Department staff and they are refined as needed in order to maintain conformance with forest certification standards. Current versions of the work instructions can be found on the MDNR internet: [http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301\\_30505\\_33360\\_41834\\_68707-331517--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360_41834_68707-331517--,00.html)

## **SFIS Surveillance Audit Process**

The review was governed by a detailed audit protocol designed to enable the audit team to determine conformance with the applicable SFI requirements. The process included the assembly and review of audit evidence consisting of documents, interviews, and on-site inspections of ongoing or completed forest practices. Documents describing these activities were provided to the auditor in advance, and a sample of the available audit evidence was designated by the auditor for review.

During the audit NSF-ISR reviewed a sample of the written documentation assembled to provide objective evidence of SFIS Conformance. NSF-ISR also selected field sites for inspection based upon the risk of environmental impact, likelihood of occurrence, special features, and other criteria outlined in the NSF-ISR SFI-SOP. NSF-ISR also selected and interviewed stakeholders such as contract loggers, landowners and other interested parties, and interviewed employees within the organization to confirm that the SFI Standard was understood and actively implemented.

The possible findings for specific SFI requirements included Full Conformance, Major Non-conformance, Minor Non-conformance, Opportunities for Improvement, and Practices that exceeded the Basic Requirements of the SFIS. Surveillance Audits generally focus on conformance issues and do not generally address exceptional practices.

## **Overview of Audit Findings**

The SFI Program of the Michigan DNR has achieved continuing conformance with the SFI Standard®, 2010-2014 Edition, according to the NSF-ISR SFIS Certification Audit Process. No new Non-conformances or Opportunities for Improvement were identified.

## **Review of 2013 Recertification Audit Findings and Disposition in 2014 Surveillance Audit**

In 2013 NSF-ISR determined that there were two minor non-conformances, both of which were closed based on evidence reviewed in the 2014 Surveillance Audit:

1. *Core Indicators 3.1.1 (BMP implementation) and 3.2.4 (protection of non-forested wetlands)*. The site visit to the active Russell Lake Aspen timber sale (sale #71-005 Roscommon FMU) identified BMP issues on 2 vernal ponds in an area that had recently been harvested (the ponds were not painted out). Two (2) trees were cut and dropped in one (1) of the ponds and approximately 80% of the tree canopy around both ponds was removed. The MIDNR BMP manual "*Sustainable Soil and Water Quality Practices on Forest Land*" (Rev. 2/24/2009) on page 29 under the Vernal Pools, Seeps, and Intermittent Steams Section, states: "All equipment, trees and tops should be kept out of this area" and "Timber harvesting can occur in the area, but the canopy closure should not be reduced to less than 70% to minimize the effect of sun and wind". A larger vernal pond in the harvested area had been painted out and had no issues. **Closed:** David Price sent a memo to all unit managers on December 16, 2014 that described the finding and requested that they remind stand examiners and timber sale administrators to follow Forest Certification Work Instruction 3.1 – Forest Operations which contains the

following language: “*The current Michigan Sustainable Soil and Water Quality Practices on Forest Land (2009) will be the standard guide for water-quality protection in State Forest operations. The manual will be used as a guide for such operations, and appropriate professional expertise will be used to adjust the recommendations of the manual to ensure protection of water quality as defined by relevant laws and regulations.*” MDNR has entered into a contract with MSU-Michigan Natural Features Inventory for a collaborative project in partnership with Verso Paper Corporation to identify and map vernal pools on state forest lands in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula on which Verso Paper Corporation procures wood. This project also will continue efforts to evaluate different approaches for identifying and mapping vernal pools remotely, so that they may be identified earlier in the compartment review planning process. In addition, site visits this year did not identify any issues related to vernal pools or similar habitat.

2. *Core Indicator 4.1.5 (landscape level habitat management)*. The Living Legacies initiative (formerly the Biodiversity Conservation Planning Process) has suffered from numerous delays since at least 2008. Completion of the initiative, including key tasks such as delineating Living Legacy areas on the state forests and identifying compatible land uses for them, has not been accomplished. **Closed:** The corrective action plan for this non-conformance included a five step plan: STEP 1: Identify Rare or Sensitive/Vulnerable Natural Communities on in-scope state forest lands. STEP 2: Identify Representative Examples of High Quality Common Natural Communities on in-scope State Forest Lands and High Quality Rare and Common Natural Communities on other Protected Lands. STEP 3: Identify Interior Core Forest Habitat on in-scope state forest lands and other DNR administered lands. STEP 4: Public Review and STEP 5: Approval & Implementation. The DNR Director signed an amendment to the 2008 Michigan State Forest Management Plan on October 9, 2014 that allows for implementation to begin.

The next audit is a surveillance audit, scheduled for the week of October 5, 2015. This will be a review of a portion of the standard covering central office functions and operations at a sample of 3 of the 15 Forest Management Units.

\* \* \* \* \*



## General Description of Evidence of Conformity

NSF's audit team used a variety of evidence to determine conformance. A general description of this evidence is provided below, organized by SFI Objective.

**Objective 1. Forest Management Planning** - To broaden the implementation of sustainable forestry by ensuring long-term forest productivity and yield based on the use of the best scientific information available.

**Summary of Evidence** – The 2008 Michigan State Forest Management Plan, Regional State Forest Management Plans, Compartment Plans for all compartments visited, the state's Wildlife Division Strategic Plan, many other plans supporting particular species, species groups, issues or sites, and the associated inventory data and growth models were sufficient to determine conformance with the requirements of Objective 1.

**Objective 2. Forest Productivity** - To ensure long-term forest productivity, carbon storage and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, soil conservation, afforestation and other measures.

**Summary of Evidence** – Field observations and associated records were used to confirm practices. Michigan Department of Natural Resources has programs for reforestation, for protection against wildfire and against many insects and diseases including Emerald Ash Borer, Beech Bark Disease, Gypsy Moth, and for careful management of activities which could potentially impact soil and long-term productivity.

**Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources** - To protect water quality in streams, lakes and other water bodies.

**Summary of Evidence** – Field observations of a range of sites were the key evidence. Auditors inspected portions of many field sites that were closest to water resources.

**Objective 4. Conservation of Biological Diversity including Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value** To manage the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity by developing and implementing stand- and landscape-level measures that promote habitat diversity and the conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic species.

**Summary of Evidence** – Field observations, written plans and policies including work to recover the Kirtland's Warbler, use of college-trained field biologists, availability of specialists, and regular staff involvement in conferences and workshops that cover scientific advances were the evidence used to assess the requirements involved biodiversity conservation.

**Objective 6. Protection of Special Sites** - To manage lands that are ecologically, geologically, or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

**Summary of Evidence** – Foresters use data from the Michigan Natural Features Inventory and consult with the Office of the State Archeologist as part of the program to protect special

sites. Field observations of completed operations, records of special sites, training records, and written protection plans were all assessed during the evaluation.

**Objective 7. Efficient Use of Forest Resources** - To promote the efficient use of forest resources.

**Summary of Evidence** –Field observations of completed operations which showed good utilization of harvested trees, contract clauses, and discussions with supervising field foresters and with loggers provided the key evidence.

**Objective 14. Legal and Regulatory Compliance** -

Compliance with applicable federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations.

**Summary of Evidence** – Field reviews of ongoing and completed operations were the most critical evidence. Programs are in place to carefully plan and review all activities in advance, in part to assure legal compliance.

**Objective 15. Forestry Research, Science, and Technology** - To support forestry research, science, and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based.

**Summary of Evidence** – Support for research as confirmed by review of records of research and research summaries.

**Objective 16. Training and Education** -To improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.

**Summary of Evidence** – Training records of selected personnel, records associated with harvest sites audited, and logger interviews were the key evidence for this objective. The team also reviewed training records associated with revised programs, such as the legacy tree effort and the draft silviculture manual.

**Objective 17. Community Involvement in the Practice of Sustainable Forestry** -

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by encouraging the public and forestry community to participate in the commitment to sustainable forestry, and publicly report progress.

**Summary of Evidence** – Conformance was supported by interviews with staff and stakeholders in the community. The Michigan DNR has an extensive outreach program through extension.

**Objective 18: Public Land Management Responsibilities** -

To support and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.

**Summary of Evidence** – Interviews with MDNR staff and with stakeholders, as well as review of documents were used to confirm the requirements.

**Objective 19. Communications and Public Reporting** - To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by documenting progress and opportunities for improvement.

**Summary of Evidence** – Reports filed with SFI Inc. and the SFI Inc. website provided the key evidence.

**Objective 20. Management Review and Continual Improvement** - To promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry, and to monitor, measure, and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

**Summary of Evidence** – Records of program reviews including formal internal audits, agendas and notes from management review meetings, and interviews with personnel from all involved levels in the organization were assessed to determine strong performance regarding management review. Records of internal audits and management review of these audits were key to developing the audit findings for this objective.



### **Relevance of Forestry Certification**

Third-party certification provides assurance that forests are being managed under the principles of sustainable forestry, which are described in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard as:

#### **1. Sustainable Forestry**

To practice sustainable forestry to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by practicing a land stewardship ethic that integrates reforestation and the managing, growing, nurturing and harvesting of trees for useful products and ecosystem services such as the conservation of soil, air and water quality, carbon, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation, and aesthetics.

#### **2. Forest Productivity and Health**

To provide for regeneration after harvest and maintain the productive capacity of the forest land base, and to protect and maintain long-term forest and soil productivity. In addition, to protect forests from economically or environmentally undesirable levels of wildfire, pests, diseases, invasive exotic plants and animals and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term forest health and productivity.

#### **3. Protection of Water Resources**

To protect water bodies and riparian zones, and to conform with best management practices to protect water quality.

#### **4. Protection of Biological Diversity**

To manage forests in ways that protect and promote biological diversity, including animal and plant species, wildlife habitats, and ecological or natural community types.

#### **5. Aesthetics and Recreation**

To manage the visual impacts of forest operations, and to provide recreational opportunities for the public.

#### **6. Protection of Special Sites**

To manage forests and lands of special significance (ecologically, geologically or culturally important) in a manner that protects their integrity and takes into account their unique qualities.

#### **7. Responsible Fiber Sourcing Practices in North America**

To use and promote among other forest landowners sustainable forestry practices that are both scientifically credible and economically, environmentally and socially responsible.

## **8. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging in Offshore Fiber Sourcing**

To avoid wood fiber from illegally logged forests when procuring fiber outside of North America, and to avoid sourcing fiber from countries without effective social laws.

## **9. Legal Compliance**

To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations.

## **10. Research**

To support advances in sustainable forest management through forestry research, science and technology.

## **11. Training and Education**

To improve the practice of sustainable forestry through training and education programs.

## **12. Public Involvement**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry on public lands through community involvement.

## **13. Transparency**

To broaden the understanding of forest certification to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available.

## **14. Continual Improvement**

To continually improve the practice of forest management, and to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

*Source: Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Standard, 2010-2014 Edition*

### **For Additional Information Contact:**

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**Appendix III**



**Audit Matrix**

## MIDNR 2014 SFI Surveillance Audit Matrix

The “transition rules” outlined in Section 9 of “Requirements for the SFI 2010-2014 Program: Standards, Rules for Label Use, Procedures, and Guidance” have been considered in the design of this checklist. During 2010 the option exists of remaining under the 2005-2009 Standard. NSF will maintain a separate “2005-2009” checklist through 2010; the following checklist is used for audits against the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.

- Between April 1 and December 31, 2010 auditors conducting surveillance audits for customers choosing **not to transition yet** should complete the old checklist for all applicable requirements and the new checklist only for those items that are additional. Additional requirements have been underlined; most have additional comments attached (seek technical support if you don’t know how to set your version of MSWord so that the comments are visible).
- Between April 1 and December 31, 2010 auditors conducting recertification audits should use the new checklist, but shall not issue “real” non-conformances for those items that are additional. Instead “transitional gaps” are identified; these are tracked in the NSF OASIS / NSF On-line database system, but do not count against the customer in the overall determination of conformance with the standard.

### Findings and Instructions:

<b>C</b>	Conformance
<b>Exr</b>	Exceeds the Requirements
<b>Maj</b>	Major Non-conformance
<b>Min</b>	Minor Non-conformance
<b>OFI</b>	Opportunity for Improvement (can also be in Conformance)
<b>NA</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Likely Gap *</b>	Likely Gap Against 2010-2014 SFIS*
<b>Likely Conf. *</b>	Likely Conformance With 2010-2014 SFIS*
	* formerly used for transition issues; Gap columns retained for use during Baseline Audits.
<b>Auditor</b>	Optional; may be used for audit planning.
10, 11	Date Codes, for example: 11= July 2011; 12=Aug. 2012
Other	Words in <i>italics</i> are defined in the standard.

**Objective 1. Forest Management Planning**

To broaden the implementation of *sustainable forestry* by ensuring *long-term forest productivity* and yield based on the use of the *best scientific information* available.

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
1.1	<b>Program Participants shall ensure that forest management plans include long-term harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate growth-and-yield models.</b>								
Notes									

	2010-2014 Requirement (Performance Measures bold)	Audit or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
1.1.1	Forest management planning at a level appropriate to the size and scale of the operation, including: a. a long-term resources analysis; b. a periodic or ongoing forest inventory; c. a land classification system; d. soils inventory and maps, where available; e. access to growth-and-yield modeling capabilities; f. up-to-date maps or a geographic information system; g. recommended sustainable harvest levels for areas available for harvest; and h. a review of non-timber issues (e.g. recreation, tourism, pilot projects and economic incentive programs to promote water protection, carbon storage, bioenergy feedstock production, or biological diversity conservation, or to address climate-induced ecosystem change).								
Notes									
1.1.2	Documentation of annual harvest trends in relation to the sustainable forest management plan in a manner appropriate to document past and future activities.								

<i>Notes</i>	In FY13 there were timber harvests on 55,922 acres, producing 753,169 cords. Planned production per the 2008 Michigan State Forest Management Plan is a minimum harvest of 53,000 acres (Regional State Forest Management Plans were not in effect for this period). In FY13 the approximate current annual net growth from the 2.9 million acres of state forest lands that are suitable for timber production is 1,049,000 cords. Regional State Forest Management Plan harvests beginning in Year-of-Entry 2016 are approximately 61,000 acres. The 2011 Forest Inventory and Analysis estimate for the state net growth to removals ratio is 1.7, which is within acceptable levels.								
	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
1.1.3	A forest inventory system and a method to calculate growth and yield.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
1.1.4	Periodic updates of forest inventory and recalculation of planned harvests to account for changes in growth due to productivity increases or decreases (e.g. improved data, long-term drought, fertilization, climate change, forest land ownership changes, etc.).								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
1.1.5	Documentation of forest practices (e.g., planting, fertilization, and thinning) consistent with assumptions in harvest plans.								
<i>Notes</i>									

## Objective 2. Forest Productivity.

To ensure *long-term forest productivity*, carbon storage, and *conservation* of forest resources through prompt *reforestation*, *soil conservation*, *afforestation* and other measures.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.1	<b>Program Participants shall promptly reforest after final harvest.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.1.1	Designation of all harvest areas for either natural regeneration or by planting.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.1.2	Reforestation, unless delayed for site-specific environmental or forest health considerations or legal requirements, through planting within two years or two planting seasons, or by planned natural regeneration methods within five years.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.1.3	Clear criteria to judge adequate regeneration and appropriate actions to correct understocked areas and achieve acceptable species composition and stocking rates for both planting and natural regeneration.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.1.4	Minimized plantings of exotic tree species, and research documentation that exotic tree species, planted operationally, pose minimal risk.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.1.5	Protection of desirable or planned advanced natural regeneration during harvest.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.1.6	Planting programs that consider potential ecological impacts of a different species or species mix from that which was harvested.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.1.7	Afforestation programs that consider potential ecological impacts of the selection and planting of tree species in non-forested landscapes.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>

<b>2.2</b>	<b>Program Participants shall minimize chemical use required to achieve management objectives while protecting employees, neighbors, the public and the environment, including wildlife and aquatic habitats.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See indicators below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<b>2.2.1</b>	Minimized chemical use required to achieve management objectives.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Minimization of chemical use is directed in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Chemicals are used in right of ways, site prep and invasive control.</p> <p>14 Site visits included 4 herbicide applications (2 invasive control and 2 red pine site prep). All used an herbicide labeled for forestry use at appropriate rates. There is ample documentation of pre application planning, conditions during the application and post application follow up.</p> <p>14 Non-chemical site preparation is extensively employed, particularly mechanical scarification and/or disc-trenching.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<b>2.2.2</b>	Use of least-toxic and narrowest-spectrum pesticides necessary to achieve management objectives.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Direction in this regard and a list of chemicals approved for use on the state forest are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Glyphosate is the main chemical used on the state forest, as this chemical has low toxicity and is not a broad-spectrum pesticide when used according to the label.</p> <p>14 Review of herbicide and rates used on the 4 herbicide application sites indicates that an appropriate herbicide was used at or below labelled rates.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<b>2.2.3</b>	Use of pesticides registered for the intended use and applied in accordance with label requirements.	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	14 Direction in this regard is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf</a>  14 Review of herbicide and rates used on the 4 herbicide application sites indicates that an appropriate herbicide was used at or below labelled rates.
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<b>2.2.4</b>	Use of integrated pest management where feasible.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	14 Direction for use of integrated pest management is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.3 and includes clear work instructions, the positions responsible for implementation of the work instructions and the training required of these individuals.  · <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf</a>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<b>2.2.5</b>	Supervision of forest chemical applications by state- or provincial-trained or certified applicators.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	14 Direction in this regard is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf</a>  14 Review of herbicide application contract for 2 site prep treatments visited indicates the applicator must be licensed.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
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<p><b>2.2.6</b></p>	<p>Use of management practices appropriate to the situation, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. notification of adjoining landowners or nearby residents concerning applications and chemicals used;</li> <li>b. appropriate multilingual signs or oral warnings;</li> <li>c. control of public road access during and immediately after applications;</li> <li>d. designation of streamside and other needed buffer strips;</li> <li>e. use of positive shutoff and minimal-drift spray valves;</li> <li>f. aerial application of forest chemicals parallel to buffer zones to minimize drift;</li> <li>g. monitoring of water quality or safeguards to ensure proper equipment use and protection of streams, lakes and other water bodies;</li> <li>h. appropriate storage of chemicals;</li> <li>i. filing of required state or provincial reports; and/or</li> <li>j. use of methods to ensure protection of threatened and endangered species.</li> </ul>								
<p><i>Notes</i></p>	<p>14 Required reports include Pesticide Application Plans (R4029) and Pesticide Use Evaluation Reports (R4029-1), which are used to plan and monitor chemical use. Public notification, access control, and recommended buffers for sensitive areas (water bodies, etc.) are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.2UsePesticides-OtherChemicals_320944_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Standard practices prescribed in the work instructions include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Herbicide applications are supervised by certified applicators. While not directly tied to environmental issues the certification assures a certain level of training has been met. The certification testing involves measures to protect the environment</li> <li>2. Herbicide prescriptions intentionally minimize the use of pesticides (application rates, extent of application area) to achieve objectives</li> <li>3. Pesticide application plans (PAP's) are required prior to application. PAP's include site specific information about environmental risks such as proximity to water bodies, human dwellings, livestock, recreation areas and public roads. PAP's specify buffer requirements, road control measures, presence and distance to dwellings etc. PAP's also specify acceptable weather conditions for application, normally in terms of maximum wind speed. Reentry intervals for personnel are also listed in the PAP.</li> <li>4. Spill kits are required on site both in contractor vehicles and state vehicles.</li> <li>5. Proper PPE is required.</li> </ol> <p>14 Pesticide applications on state owned utility ROW's are handled through use permits which specify buffers on wetlands and water, herbicide selection and rates and application method. And, of course following label instructions is mandatory on all applications.”</p> <p>14 Assessment for protection of RTE species is directed in DNR IC4172 - RARE SPECIES PROTECTION APPROACH AND ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR DNR STAFF ON STATE FOREST LANDS  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4172_RareSpeciesProtectionGuidelines_469023_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4172_RareSpeciesProtectionGuidelines_469023_7.pdf</a></p>								

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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3	<b>Program Participants shall implement forest management practices to protect and maintain forest and soil productivity.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.1	Use of soils maps where available.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.2	Process to identify soils vulnerable to compaction, and use of appropriate methods to avoid excessive soil disturbance.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.3	Use of erosion control measures to <i>minimize</i> the loss of soil and site productivity.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.4	Post-harvest conditions conducive to maintaining site productivity (e.g. limited rutting, retained down woody debris, minimized skid trails).								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.5	Retention of vigorous trees during partial harvesting, consistent with scientific silvicultural standards for the area.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.6	Criteria that address harvesting and site preparation to protect soil productivity.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
2.3.7	Road construction and skidding layout to minimize impacts to soil productivity and water quality.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>

<b>2.4</b>	<b>Program Participants shall manage so as to protect forests from damaging agents, such as environmentally or economically undesirable wildfire, pests, diseases and invasive exotic plants and animals, to maintain and improve long-term forest health, productivity and economic viability.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.4.1	Program to protect forests from damaging agents.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 The DNR Forest Resources Division has a Forest Health and Monitoring Unit with 4 staff persons that are responsible for addressing forest health issues. Details on the program can be found at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30830---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30830---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 MI DNR has developed a comprehensive forest health document called 2013 Forest Health Highlights: <a href="http://www.midnr.com/Publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/ForestHealth/Forest_Health_Highlights_2013.pdf">http://www.midnr.com/Publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/ForestHealth/Forest_Health_Highlights_2013.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Forest Management Division Policy 591: Forest Pest Management specifies a program consistent with Performance Measure 2.4 and the Indicators.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.4.2	Management to promote healthy and productive forest conditions to minimize susceptibility to damaging agents.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Direction for proactive and reactive responses to potential or actual forest health issues on the state forest is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.3. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Actions to address forest health issues are accomplished through the DNR compartment review process. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf</a></p> <p>14 As described in the 2013 Forest Health Highlights: Work continues to monitor and evaluate Beech Bark Disease resistant cultivars of American beech on a state forest test plot; a vibratory plow was used to help control the spread of oak wilt.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.4.3	Participation in, and support of, fire and pest prevention and control programs.	NB	14						

<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 The DNR has a cooperative relationship with several forest health partners – U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan State University, and Michigan Technological University. A synopsis of partnership work in 2013 can be found in the 2013 Forest Health Highlights:</p> <p>14 The DNR has a fire prevention and control program: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30816---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30816---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 The DNR also participates in The Great Lakes Forest Fire Compact. <a href="http://www.glffc.com/">http://www.glffc.com/</a></p> <p>14 Field observations confirmed that management promotes healthy and productive forest conditions to minimize susceptibility to damaging agents. Most stand types (exceptions are for some lowland types) are rigorously maintained within desired stocking and rotation-length parameters, with allowance for ecosystem management goals and for access issues.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.5	<b>Program Participants that deploy improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings, shall use sound scientific methods.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
2.5.1	Program for appropriate research, testing, evaluation and deployment of improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings.								

### Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources

To protect water quality in rivers, streams, lakes, and other water bodies.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
3.1	<b>Program Participants shall meet or exceed all applicable federal, provincial, state and local water quality laws, and meet or exceed best management practices developed under Canadian or U.S. Environmental Protection Agency–approved water quality programs.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
3.1.1	Program to implement state or provincial best management practices during all phases of management activities.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>This was a minor CAR in 2013. This audit confirmed the corrective action plan was effectively implemented and the CAR is closed.</p> <p>14 Requirements for implementation for soil and water best management practices are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 3.1.  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133210_7.1.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133210_7.1.pdf</a></p> <p>14 BMP Non-conformance reporting instructions are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 3.2.  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133211_7.2.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133211_7.2.pdf</a></p> <p>14 BMP non-conformances are reported and tracked using BMP Resource Damage Reports (R-4501).</p> <p>14 The DNR-DEQ Sustainable Soil and Water Quality Practices on Forest Land (BMP Manual) is available at:  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-31154_31261---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-31154_31261---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Site visits did not identify any issues.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
3.1.2	Contract provisions that specify conformance to best management practices.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>See Timber Sale Contract Specification 5.3 in: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516</a></p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
3.1.3	Plans that address wet-weather events (e.g. forest inventory systems, wet-weather tracts, definitions of acceptable operating conditions).	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Contracts contain provisions limiting the amount of rutting allowed or otherwise allow “Unit Manager or their representative” to halt operations that are causing excessive damage. See Timber Sale Contract Specification 5.4 in: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516</a></p> <p>14 DNR Rutting guidelines can be found at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/InterimRuttingGuidance_Boyd-Moritz_080907_212142_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/InterimRuttingGuidance_Boyd-Moritz_080907_212142_7.pdf</a></p> <p>and in the DNR Soil and Water Quality BMP guide: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4011_SustainableSoilAndWaterQualityPracticesOnForestLand_268417_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4011_SustainableSoilAndWaterQualityPracticesOnForestLand_268417_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Foresters match contract harvest dates with site conditions; for example some areas are designated for logging in winter or frozen conditions.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b>C</b>	<b>EXR</b>	<b>Maj</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>OFI</b>	<b>Likely Gap *</b>	<b>Likely Conf. *</b>
3.1.4	Monitoring of overall best management practices implementation.	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 BMP monitoring and reporting requirements are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 3.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133211_7.2.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133211_7.2.pdf</a></p> <p>14 BMP effectiveness monitoring is conducted periodically in cooperation with the MI SFI Implementation Committee (SIC). The monitoring report from 2011 can be found at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/BMP_390337_7.pdf?20140417110702">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/BMP_390337_7.pdf?20140417110702</a> BMP effectiveness monitoring with the MI SIC is in progress for 2014.</p> <p>14 For roads and trails, for monitoring MDNR continues to utilize the Resource Damage Reporting (RDR) System, which is in the same format as other DNR programs, has automatic notifications via automatic emails, is tied to GIS; and flags other nearby RDRs already reported.</p> <p>14 For timber harvests the form R4050E “Timber Sale Contract – Field Inspection Report” is used to record monitoring of all aspects of the harvest, including road issues, BMPs, cleanup, soil protection, aesthetic consideration, stump heights, and other aspects of utilization. Confirmed the use of the R4050 by field foresters via review of documents for harvests selected for field review.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b>C</b>	<b>EXR</b>	<b>Maj</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>OFI</b>	<b>Likely Gap *</b>	<b>Likely Conf. *</b>
3.2	<b>Program Participants shall have or develop, implement and document riparian protection measures based on soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system and other applicable factors.</b>								

<b>Notes</b>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b>C</b>	<b>EXR</b>	<b>Maj</b>	<b>Min</b>	<b>OFI</b>	<b>Likely Gap *</b>	<b>Likely Conf. *</b>
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3.2.1	Program addressing management and protection of rivers, streams, lakes, and other water bodies and riparian zones.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
3.2.2	Mapping of rivers, streams, lakes, and other water bodies as specified in state or provincial best management practices and, where appropriate, identification on the ground.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
3.2.3	Implementation of plans to manage or protect rivers, streams, lakes, and other water bodies.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
3.2.4	Identification and protection of non-forested wetlands, including bogs, fens and marshes, and vernal pools of ecological significance.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
3.2.5	Where regulations or best management practices do not currently exist to protect riparian areas, use of experts to identify appropriate protection measures.								

<i>Notes</i>	
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**Objective 4. Conservation of Biological Diversity including Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value.**

To manage the quality and distribution of wildlife habitats and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity by developing and implementing stand- and landscape-level measures that promote a diversity of types of habitat and successional stages, and conservation of forest plants and animals, including aquatic species.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>4.1</i>	<b>Program Participants shall have programs to promote biological diversity at stand- and landscape-levels.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>4.1.1</i>	Program to promote the conservation of native biological diversity, including species, wildlife habitats and ecological community types.	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The DNR Wildlife Division is a co-manager of the Michigan state forest and is responsible for the conservation of wildlife species and habitats. Information on wildlife species and habitat, featured species that are a priority for the MI DNR, and the Michigan Wildlife Action Plan can be found at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Habitat specifications for featured species on state forest lands is provided for each management area in DNR Regional State Forest Management Plans: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_62551---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_62551---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Direction for the conservation of biodiversity is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.4- Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Conservation of Ecological Community Types is accomplished by the proposed updated DNR network of Ecological Reference Areas: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,.00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,.00.html</a> and further described in the proposed 2014 Amendment to the 2008 Michigan State Forest Management Plan: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2014_Amendment_to_Michigan_State_Forest_Management_Plan_FinalDraft826142_466470_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2014_Amendment_to_Michigan_State_Forest_Management_Plan_FinalDraft826142_466470_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 The DNR has a partnership with the USFWS, U.S. Forest Service and other partners to develop a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake.</p> <p>14 The DNR has a partnership with the USFWS and USFS to develop a new Kirtland’s Warbler Breeding Range Conservation Plan.</p> <p>14 The DNR is coordinating with the USFWS to develop Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Northern Long-Eared Bat, as related to a pending listing determination by the USFWS.</p> <p>14 Michigan Department of Natural Resources’ wildlife habitat biologists participate in Forest Compartment exams that are conducted by each Forest Management Unit yearly to plan future harvest sites. This compartment-level review guides most tactical planning involving timber harvests and other vegetation management at the stand level. At larger spatial scales a combination of species plans, special habitat initiatives, and the Regional State Forest Management Plans using featured species to identify a diverse set of habitat indicators, as well as the Wildlife Division Strategic Plan (Guiding Principles and Strategies) guide habitat biologists.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFl</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
4.1.2	Program to protect threatened and endangered species.	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The DNR Wildlife Division is a co-manager of the Michigan state forest and is responsible for the protection of RTE species: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_12141---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_12141---,00.html</a> and <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_12141_12168---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_12141_12168---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Direction for the protection of RTE species is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.4- Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf</a> and in</p> <p>14 Assessment for protection of RTE species is directed in DNR IC4172 - RARE SPECIES PROTECTION APPROACH AND ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR DNR STAFF ON STATE FOREST LANDS <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4172_RareSpeciesProtectionGuidelines_469023_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/IC4172_RareSpeciesProtectionGuidelines_469023_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 All proposed forest treatments are reviewed for possible impact upon RTE species. See DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.6: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf</a> and DNR Guidance for Preparing Timber Sale Proposal Checklist (IC4031-6 and DNR Form R4031-6)</p> <p>14 Michigan DNR has a GIS layer that identifies “Biodiversity Areas” including ecological reference areas, high conservation value areas, and special conservation areas. The audit team visited several sites during the audit; each had a site-specific analysis and recommendations. For example, Grindstone Creek is a special conservation area that has been designated a potential old growth forest.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
4.1.3	Program to locate and protect known sites associated with viable occurrences of critically imperiled and imperiled species and communities also known as Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value. Plans for protection may be developed independently or collaboratively, and may include Program Participant management, cooperation with other stakeholders, or use of easements, conservation land sales, exchanges, or other conservation strategies.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Known sites associated with viable occurrences of critically imperiled and imperiled species and communities are identified in the Michigan Natural Heritage Database, which is managed under a MOU and DNR contract with the MSUE Michigan Natural Features Inventory: <a href="http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/">http://mnfi.anr.msu.edu/</a> .</p> <p>14 Conservation of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value is accomplished by the proposed updated DNR network of Ecological Reference Areas: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html</a> and further described in the proposed 2014 Amendment to the 2008 Michigan State Forest Management Plan: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2014_Amendment_to_Michigan_State_Forest_Management_Plan_FinalDraft826142_466470_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2014_Amendment_to_Michigan_State_Forest_Management_Plan_FinalDraft826142_466470_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Management direction for ERAs is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.4- Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf</a> and in proposed DNR Ecological Reference Areas Definition and Principles of Management: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf</a></p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
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4.1.4	Development and implementation of criteria, as guided by regionally appropriate best scientific information, to retain stand-level wildlife habitat elements such as snags, stumps, mast trees, down woody debris, den trees and nest trees.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Management direction for within-stand retention and legacy trees is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.4- Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf</a> , in DNR Within-Stand Retention Guidance <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WithinStandRetentionGuidelines-IC4110_175766_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WithinStandRetentionGuidelines-IC4110_175766_7.pdf</a> , and Clarification of Within-Stand Retention Guidance for Aspen Stands <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Clarification_WithinStand_Retention_Aspen_Memo_469200_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Clarification_WithinStand_Retention_Aspen_Memo_469200_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Guidance for retention if biomass harvests is provided in Michigan Woody Biomass Harvesting Guidance: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WGBH_321271_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WGBH_321271_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Most sites visited in 2014 appear to meet guidelines.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.1.5	Program for assessment, conducted either individually or collaboratively, of forest cover types, age or size classes, and habitats at the individual ownership level and, where credible data are available, across the landscape, and take into account findings in planning and management activities.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 This was a minor CAR in 2013. The corrective action plan for this non-conformance included a five step plan: STEP 1: Identify Rare or Sensitive/Vulnerable Natural Communities on in-scope state forest lands. STEP 2: Identify Representative Examples of High Quality Common Natural Communities on in-scope State Forest Lands and High Quality Rare and Common Natural Communities on other Protected Lands. STEP 3: Identify Interior Core Forest Habitat on in-scope state forest lands and other DNR administered lands. STEP 4: Public Review and STEP 5: Approval &amp; Implementation. The governor recently signed the Administrative Order that allows for implementation to begin.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.1.6	Support of and participation in plans or programs for the conservation of old-growth forests in the region of ownership.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The DNR proposed updated network of Ecological Reference Areas includes old-growth forests located upon partnering Federal lands and conservancy lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html</a> Examples include the McCormick and Sylvania Wilderness Areas on the Ottawa National Forest and the Estivant Pines located upon property of the Michigan Nature Association.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.1.7	Participation in programs and demonstration of activities as appropriate to limit the introduction, impact and spread of invasive exotic plants and animals that directly threaten or are likely to threaten native plant and animal communities.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Direction for proactive and reactive responses to potential or actual forest health issues on the state forest is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.3. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 The DNR has a cooperative relationship with several forest health partners – U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan State University, and Michigan Technological University. A synopsis of partnership work in 2013 can be found at: <a href="http://www.midnr.com/Publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/ForestHealth/Forest_Health_Highlights_2013.pdf">http://www.midnr.com/Publications/pdfs/ForestsLandWater/ForestHealth/Forest_Health_Highlights_2013.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Descriptions of other strategies and actions by the DNR Wildlife and Fisheries Divisions to address invasive terrestrial and aquatic plant and animal species can be found at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_59996-270795--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10370_59996-270795--,00.html</a></p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.1.8	Program to incorporate the role of prescribed or natural fire where appropriate.								
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 The DNR Forest Resources Division has a program for the use of prescribed fire in management of forest resources: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30816-55955--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30816-55955--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 The use of prescribed fire is identified as a management tool for ERAs in proposed DNR Ecological Reference Areas Definition and Principles of Management: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Fire is commonly prescribed when appropriate, especially in the management of Jack Pine communities, but also to maintain openings and grassland plant species (Site in Atlanta FMU). Prescribed fire is an essential activity in the management of Kirtland's Warbler, an endangered species. Managers would like to use fire on more sites, but personnel and financial resources limit further use.</p> <p>14 Auditors visited the compartment 90 FTP W42-662 prescribed burn site. Michigan DNR has a strong fire control program, and this program is involved in prescribed burning when not busy with control of wildfires.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>

4.2	<b>Program Participants shall apply knowledge gained through research, science, technology and field experience to manage wildlife habitat and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.2.1	Collection of information on Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value and other biodiversity-related data through forest inventory processes, mapping or participation in external programs, such as NatureServe, state or provincial heritage programs, or other credible systems. Such participation may include providing non-proprietary scientific information, time and assistance by staff, or in-kind or direct financial support.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
4.2.2	A methodology to incorporate research results and field applications of biodiversity and ecosystem research into forest management decisions.								
<i>Notes</i>									

**Objective 5. Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits.**

To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>

5.1	Program Participants shall manage the impact of harvesting on visual quality.								
Notes									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.1.1	Program to address visual quality management.								
Notes									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.1.2	Incorporation of aesthetic considerations in harvesting, road, landing design and management, and other management activities where visual impacts are a concern.								
Notes									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.2	Program Participants shall manage the size, shape and placement of clearcut harvests.								
Notes									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.2.1	Average size of clearcut harvest areas does not exceed 120 acres (50 hectares), except when necessary to meet regulatory requirements or to respond to forest health emergencies or other natural catastrophes.								

<i>Notes</i>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.2.2	Documentation through internal records of clearcut size and the process for calculating average size.								

<i>Notes</i>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.3	<b>Program Participants shall adopt a green-up requirement or alternative methods that provide for visual quality.</b>								

<i>Notes</i>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.3.1	Program implementing the green-up requirement or alternative methods.								

<i>Notes</i>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.3.2	Harvest area tracking system to demonstrate conformance with the green-up requirement or alternative methods.								

<i>Notes</i>	
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.3.3	Trees in clearcut harvest areas are at least 3 years old or 5 feet (1.5 meters) high at the desired level of stocking before adjacent areas are clearcut, or as appropriate to address operational and economic considerations, alternative methods to reach the performance measure are utilized by the Program Participant.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.4	<b>Program Participants shall support and promote recreational opportunities for the public.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
5.4.1	Provide recreational opportunities for the public, where consistent with forest management objectives.								
<i>Notes</i>									

**Objective 6. Protection of Special Sites.**

To manage lands that are ecologically, geologically or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
6.1	<b>Program Participants shall identify special sites and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
6.1.1	Use of information such as existing natural heritage data, expert advice or stakeholder consultation in identifying or selecting special sites for protection.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Work Instructions specify that the requirements of this indicator are met, with foresters the first part of the process. Foresters seek special sites during inventory and check existing databases for known sites. Field interviews and some documents associated with field sites helped confirm that existing information is used, and that additional information on special sites is sought and used. Foresters and biologists also report locations of new special sites.</p> <p>14 Michigan Natural Heritage data and stakeholder consultation were used in the identification of a proposed updated network of Ecological Reference Areas: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505_33360-333691--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 All proposed forest treatments are reviewed for possible impact upon historic/cultural/ecological resources. See DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.6: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf</a> and DNR Guidance for Preparing Timber Sale Proposal Checklist (IC4031-6 and DNR Form R4031-6).</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
6.1.2	Appropriate mapping, cataloging and management of identified special sites.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Requirements for the preservation of cultural and historic sites are provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 3.1. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133210_7.1.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/3_133210_7.1.pdf</a>.</p> <p>14 Confirmed that cultural and historic sites, Natural Heritage Program element occurrence records, and DNR Special Conservation Area and High Conservation Value Areas are data layers in the DNR Geographic Decision Support Environment (GDSE).</p> <p>14 Management direction for ERAs is provided in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.4- Biodiversity Management on State Forest Lands: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.4BiodMgt_320943_7.pdf</a> and in proposed DNR Ecological Reference Areas Definition and Principles of Management: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/ERA_DefinitionsPublic_Review_Draft_463865_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Foresters report new special sites to the appropriate entity, including the department's archeologist or the MNFI. Work instructions cover this. Visited a sinkhole site and a confidential site during the audit.</p>								

**Objective 7. Efficient Use of Forest Resources.**

To promote the efficient use of forest resources.

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
7.1	<b>Program Participants shall employ appropriate forest harvesting technology and in-woods manufacturing processes and practices to minimize waste and ensure efficient utilization of harvested trees, where consistent with other SFI Standard objectives.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
7.1.1	Program or monitoring system to ensure efficient utilization, which may include provisions to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. management of harvest residue (e.g. slash, limbs, tops) considers economic, social and environmental factors (e.g. organic and nutrient value to future forests) and other utilization needs;</li> <li>b. training or incentives to encourage loggers to enhance utilization;</li> <li>c. cooperation with mill managers for better utilization of species and low-grade material;</li> <li>d. exploration of markets for underutilized species and low-grade wood and alternative markets (e.g. bioenergy markets); or</li> <li>e. periodic inspections and reports noting utilization and product separation.</li> </ul>								
<i>Notes</i>									

**Objective 8. Landowner Outreach. NA – Procurement Only.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by forest landowners through fiber sourcing programs.

**Objective 9. Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals. NA – Procurement Only.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by encouraging forest landowners to utilize the services of forest management and harvesting professionals.

**Objective 10. Adherence to Best Management Practices. NA – Procurement Only.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through the use of best management practices to protect water quality.

**Objective 11. Promote Conservation of Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Hotspots and High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas. NA – All fee lands are located in the US.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by conserving biological diversity, biodiversity hotspots and high-biodiversity wilderness areas.

**Objective 12. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging. NA – All fee lands are located in the US.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by avoidance of illegal logging.

**Objective 13. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Fiber Sourced from Areas without Effective Social Laws. NA – All fee lands are located in the US.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by avoiding controversial sources.

**Objective 14. Legal and Regulatory Compliance.**

Compliance with applicable federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.1</i>	<b>Program Participants shall take appropriate steps to comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local forestry and related social and environmental laws and regulations.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.1.1</i>	Access to relevant laws and regulations in appropriate locations.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14 Access to Michigan law, administrative rules and Department Orders is provided at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366_37141--00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366_37141--00.html</a> .								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.1.2</i>	System to achieve compliance with applicable federal, provincial, state or local laws and regulations.	NB	14						

<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Compliance with Federal, State and local laws is addressed in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 7.2: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/7_133228_7.2.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/7_133228_7.2.pdf</a>.</p> <p>14 State of Michigan Policy 2410: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dtmb/0,5552,7-150-9131_9347-29674--,00.html#2400">http://www.michigan.gov/dtmb/0,5552,7-150-9131_9347-29674--,00.html#2400</a>.</p> <p>14 Relations and legal requirements pertaining to Native American Tribes are addressed in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 9.1: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/9.1_Tribal_Issues_282250_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/9.1_Tribal_Issues_282250_7.pdf</a>; and the 2007 Inland Consent Decree: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Proposed_Consent_Decreepages1-144_209977_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/Proposed_Consent_Decreepages1-144_209977_7.pdf</a>.</p> <p>14 Trained foresters and biologists, supported by very experienced supervisors, plan and oversee all treatments.</p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.1.3</i>	Demonstration of commitment to legal compliance through available regulatory action information.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Statement of commitment to Federal, State and local laws is stated in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 7.2: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/7_133228_7.2.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/7_133228_7.2.pdf</a>.</p> <p>14 Employee handbook requires compliance. No cases of non-compliance or violations were reported to the auditors.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.2</i>	<b>Program Participants shall take appropriate steps to comply with all applicable social laws at the federal, provincial, state and local levels in the country in which the Program Participant operates.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>14.2.1</i>	Written policy demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation, indigenous peoples' rights, workers' and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
14.2.2	Forestry enterprises will respect the rights of workers and labor representatives in a manner that encompasses the intent of the International Labor Organization (ILO) core conventions.								
<i>Notes</i>	Are there any ILO-related complaints? If yes NSF must pass these along to SFI Inc.								

#### Objective 15. Forestry Research, Science, and Technology.

To support forestry research, science, and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based.

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.1	<b>Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve forest health, productivity, and sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See indicators.								

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
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15.1.1	<p>Financial or in-kind support of research to address questions of relevance in the region of operations. The research shall include some of the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. forest health, productivity, and ecosystem functions;</li> <li>b. chemical efficiency, use rate and integrated pest management;</li> <li>c. water quality and/or effectiveness of best management practices including effectiveness of water quality and best management practices for protecting the quality, diversity and distributions of fish and wildlife habitats;</li> <li>d. wildlife management at stand- and landscape-levels;</li> <li>e. conservation of biological diversity;</li> <li>f. ecological impacts of bioenergy feedstock removals on productivity, wildlife habitat, water quality and other ecosystem functions;</li> <li>g. climate change research for both adaptation and mitigation;</li> <li>h. social issues;</li> <li>i. forest operations efficiencies and economics;</li> <li>j. energy efficiency;</li> <li>k. life cycle assessment;</li> <li>l. avoidance of illegal logging; and</li> <li>m. avoidance of controversial sources.</li> </ul>	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Coordinated natural resources management research is addressed in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 5.1: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/5_133216_7.1.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/5_133216_7.1.pdf</a>.</p> <p>14 DNR support of research is substantial. A summary of DNR supported research as of the end of 2013 is provided at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2013SummarySustainableForestryResearch_463387_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/2013SummarySustainableForestryResearch_463387_7.pdf</a>.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.1.2	Research on genetically engineered trees via forest tree biotechnology shall adhere to all applicable federal, state, and provincial regulations and international protocols.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The use of genetically modified organisms is not allowed on certified state forest lands per DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 2.3: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_2.3IntegratedPestMgt_320945_7.pdf</a></p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
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15.2	<b>Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners develop or use state, provincial or regional analyses in support of their sustainable forestry programs.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.2.1	Participation, individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees and/or associations at the national, state, provincial or regional level, in the development or use of some of the following: a. regeneration assessments; b. growth and drain assessments; c. best management practices implementation and conformance; d. biodiversity conservation information for family forest owners; and e. social, cultural or economic benefit assessments.								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.3	<b>Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.3.1	Where available, monitor information generated from regional climate models on long-term forest health, productivity and economic viability.								

<i>Notes</i>									
	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
15.3.2	Program Participants are knowledgeable about climate change impacts on wildlife, wildlife habitats and conservation of biological diversity through international, national, regional or local programs.								
<i>Notes</i>									

**Objective 16. Training and Education.**

To improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1	<b>Program Participants shall require appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that they are competent to fulfill their responsibilities under the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1.1	Written statement of commitment to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard communicated throughout the organization, particularly to facility and woodland managers, fiber sourcing staff and field foresters.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14 The commitment of the State of Michigan to forest certification is embodied in state law: <a href="http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(5lpisxm3xzejic45yhdcxinn))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&amp;objectName=mcl-324-52505">http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(5lpisxm3xzejic45yhdcxinn))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&amp;objectName=mcl-324-52505</a>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1.2	Assignment and understanding of roles and responsibilities for achieving SFI 2010-2014 Standard objectives.	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The MI DNR Forest Resources Division has a full term employee assigned to the duty of Forest Certification Coordinator and also maintains a standing Forest Certification Team.</p> <p>14 All of the SFI Performance Measures and Indicators are contained in a series of DNR Forest Certification Work Instructions, which are regularly reviewed and updated. These work instructions provide clear assignment of responsibilities by position.  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331517--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331517--,00.html</a></p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1.3	Staff education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 Both the Wildlife and Forestry Divisions develop and implement annual training plans which deal with broad training needs and which also list mandatory training identified to meet laws and priorities that are intended for selected employees.</p> <p>14 The DNR Forest Resources Division uses an Individual Training Needs Assessment Worksheet to describe the training necessary for various employee classifications.</p> <p>14 Formal training records are maintained in Lansing; personnel often maintain their own training records.</p> <p>14 Review of training policy and training records of selected MIDNR employees indicate a robust and well documented training program.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1.4	Contractor education and training sufficient to their roles and responsibilities.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The DNR maintains a web site and provides training for contractors that assist in preparing DNR timber sales:  <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10368_21637---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10368_21637---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Foresters providing contract forestry services must have a professional forestry degree, pass a written test, and take an orientation test.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.1.5	Forestry enterprises shall have a program for the use of certified logging professionals (where available) and qualified logging professionals.	NB	14						

<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 The MI DNR supports SFE training through membership on the MI SFI Implementation Committee: <a href="http://sfimi.org/">http://sfimi.org/</a></p> <p>14 DNR timber sale contract specification 6.3 requires a SFE qualified foreman to supervise logging operations on DNR timber sales: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/GCR_155850_7.pdf?20140922102516</a> and <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10368_22594-126057--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10368_22594-126057--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 The audit team visited numerous active harvest jobs and confirmed that trained individuals were involved in all.</p>
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	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
16.2	<b>Program Participants shall work individually and/or with SFI Implementation Committees, logging or forestry associations, or appropriate agencies or others in the forestry community to foster improvement in the professionalism of wood producers.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	2010-2014 Requirement	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>

16.2.1	<p>Participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees to establish criteria and identify delivery mechanisms for wood producers' training courses that address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. awareness of sustainable forestry principles and the SFI program;</li> <li>b. best management practices, including streamside management and road construction, maintenance and retirement;</li> <li>c. reforestation, invasive exotic plants and animals, forest resource conservation, aesthetics, and special sites;</li> <li>d. awareness of responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act, and other measures to protect wildlife habitat (e.g. Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value);</li> <li>e. logging safety;</li> <li>f. U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (COHS) regulations, wage and hour rules, and other provincial, state and local employment laws;</li> <li>g. transportation issues;</li> <li>h. business management;</li> <li>i. public policy and outreach; and</li> <li>j. awareness of emerging technologies.</li> </ul>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
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16.2.2	<p>Participation in or support of SFI Implementation Committees to establish criteria for recognition of logger certification programs, where they exist, that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. completion of SFI Implementation Committee recognized logger training programs and meeting continuing education requirements of the training program;</li> <li>b. independent in-the-forest verification of conformance with the logger certification program standards;</li> <li>c. compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including responsibilities under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, the Canadian Species at Risk Act and other measures to protect wildlife habitat;</li> <li>d. use of best management practices to protect water quality;</li> <li>e. logging safety;</li> <li>f. compliance with acceptable silviculture and utilization standards;</li> <li>g. aesthetic management techniques employed where applicable; and</li> <li>h. adherence to a management or harvest plan that is site specific and agreed to by the forest landowner.</li> </ul>								
<i>Notes</i>									

**Objective 17. Community Involvement in the Practice of Sustainable Forestry.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by encouraging the public and forestry community to participate in the commitment to sustainable forestry, and publicly report progress.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>17.1</i>	<b>Program Participants shall support and promote efforts by consulting foresters, state, provincial and federal agencies, state or local groups, professional societies, conservation organizations, indigenous peoples and governments, community groups, sporting organizations, labor, universities, extension agencies, the American Tree Farm System® and/or other landowner cooperative programs to apply principles of sustainable forest management.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See evidence below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>17.1.1</i>	Support, including financial, for efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14 SFI policy does not require governmental agencies to pay SIC dues. 14 Confirmed by review of meeting minutes attendance lists that the MI DNR supports the MI SIC.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>17.1.2</i>	Support for the development of educational materials for use with forest landowners (e.g. information packets, websites, newsletters, workshops, tours, etc.).	NB	14						

<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The MI DNR has several full time employees that support this function: a webmaster, a promotional agent, an educational coordinator (Adopt-A-Forest; Project learning Tree), a forest stewardship coordinator, a Forest Health and Monitoring Unit, an Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator, and a Community Wildfire Protection coordinator.</p> <p>14 Work with the SFI SIC includes funding two billboards to facilitate greater public awareness of SFI.</p> <p>14 Web site resources include:</p> <p>Adopt-A-Forest <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366_10871-27529--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-10366_10871-27529--,00.html</a></p> <p>Project Learning Tree <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10369_53507---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-10369_53507---,00.html</a></p> <p>Forest Stewardship Program <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68762---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68762---,00.html</a></p> <p>Urban and Community Forestry <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_40936---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_40936---,00.html</a></p> <p>General Forest Information <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_69181---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_69181---,00.html</a></p>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
17.1.3	Support for the development of regional, state or provincial information materials that provide forest landowners with practical approaches for addressing special sites and biological diversity issues, such as invasive exotic plants and animals, specific wildlife habitat, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and threatened and endangered species.	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	<p>14 The DNR FRD Forest Health and Monitoring Unit works with several forest health partners in the development of informational materials for invasive plant and insect species – U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Michigan State University, and Michigan Technological University. See 2013 Forest Health Highlights: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30830---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30830---,00.html</a></p> <p>14 The DNR also has a MOU and contract with Michigan Natural Features Inventory for maintenance of the Michigan Natural Heritage database.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
17.1.4	Participation in efforts to support or promote conservation of managed forests through voluntary market-based incentive programs such as current-use taxation programs, Forest Legacy Program or conservation easements.	NB	14						

<i>Notes</i>	14 The DNR FRD administers the Michigan Commercial Forest Program. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68191---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68191---,00.html</a> 14 The DNR FRD administers a Forest Legacy Program. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68250---,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_34240_68250---,00.html</a>
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	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<i>17.1.5</i>	Program Participants are knowledgeable about credible regional conservation planning and priority-setting efforts that include a broad range of stakeholders and have a program to take into account the results of these efforts in planning.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Relevant DNR efforts include:</p> <p>Participation in the Climate Changes Response Framework with the USFS Northern Research Station and other partners. <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs129.pdf">http://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs129.pdf</a></p> <p>Partnership with the USFWS and other partners to develop a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) for the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake.</p> <p>Partnership with the USFWS and USFS to develop a new Kirtland's Warbler Breeding Range Conservation Plan.</p> <p>Coordination with the USFWS to develop Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Northern Long-Eared Bat, as related to a pending listing determination by the USFWS.</p> <p>Section 5 of Regional State Forest Management Plans described how results of these efforts will be incorporated into DNR operational planning.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>
<i>17.2</i>	<b>Program Participants shall support and promote, at the state, provincial or other appropriate levels, mechanisms for public outreach, education and involvement related to sustainable forest management.</b>								
<i>Notes</i>									

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<b><u>C</u></b>	<b><u>EXR</u></b>	<b><u>Maj</u></b>	<b><u>Min</u></b>	<b><u>OFI</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Gap *</u></b>	<b><u>Likely Conf. *</u></b>

17.2.1	Periodic educational opportunities promoting sustainable forestry, such as a. field tours, seminars, websites, webinars or workshops; b. educational trips; c. self-guided forest management trails; d. publication of articles, educational pamphlets or newsletters; or e. support for state, provincial, and local forestry organizations and soil and water conservation districts.									
<i>Notes</i>										

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>	
17.3	<b>Program Participants shall establish, at the state, provincial, or other appropriate levels, procedures to address concerns raised by loggers, consulting foresters, employees, unions, the public or other Program Participants regarding practices that appear inconsistent with the SFI Standard principles and objectives.</b>									
<i>Notes</i>										

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>	
17.3.1	Support for SFI Implementation Committees (e.g. toll free numbers and other efforts) to address concerns about apparent nonconforming practices.									
<i>Notes</i>										

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>	
17.3.2	Process to receive and respond to public inquiries. SFI Implementation Committees shall submit data annually to SFI Inc. regarding concerns received and responses.									
<i>Notes</i>										

**Objective 18. Public Land Management Responsibilities.**

To promote and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>18.1</i>	<b>Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall participate in the development of public land planning and management processes.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See indicators below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>18.1.1</i>	Involvement in public land planning and management activities with appropriate governmental entities and the public.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Section 4.1.2.2 of the 2008 Michigan State Forest Management plan contains objectives for consultation with government and non-government entities and individuals. Also see evidence for indicator 17.1.5 for examples of involvement in public land planning and management processes.</p> <p>14 MI DNR works with local and federal agencies to ensure that planning and management activities are coordinated to the degree possible. The state forest management program is open to public input in various ways. Evidence was provided of regular open houses held to “provide information and receive public comment on proposed forest management treatments”. Considerable efforts are made to publicize these events (press releases, emails, web sites) but attendance continues to be low.</p> <p>14 The MI DNR has a web site where stakeholders can learn about proposed and planned management practices.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<i>18.1.2</i>	Appropriate contact with local stakeholders over forest management issues through state, provincial, federal or independent collaboration.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Michigan DNR provides ample opportunity for stakeholder input. Efforts includes: webinar, serious of public meetings around the state, Natural Resource Commission meetings include public involvement. MIDNR provides an email address to receive public comments.</p> <p>14 The DNR maintains a Guide to Participation for local stakeholders that describes the DNR compartment review process and opportunities for participation. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505-123392--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_30505-123392--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Press releases, GovDelivery emails, and other forms of public notification are annually made for public open houses at Forest Management Unit.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
18.2	<b>Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected indigenous peoples.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See indicator below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
18.2.1	Program that includes communicating with affected indigenous peoples to enable Program Participants to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. understand and respect traditional forest-related knowledge;</li> <li>b. identify and protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites; and</li> <li>c. address the use of non-timber forest products of value to indigenous peoples in areas where Program Participants have management responsibilities on public lands.</li> </ul>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Indicator 18.2.1a is not applicable in MI.</p> <p>14 Records of historic/cultural sites are maintain in the MI History Arts and Libraries (HAL) database, which is linked to the MI DNR Geographic Decision Support Environment (GDSE). All proposed forest treatments are reviewed for possible impact upon historic/cultural resources. See DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.6: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/1_133198_7.6.pdf</a> and DNR Guidance for Preparing Timber Sale Proposal Checklist (IC4031-6 and DNR Form R4031-6)</p> <p>14 Communication with Native American Tribes are addressed in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 9.1: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/9.1_Tribal_Issues_282250_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/9.1_Tribal_Issues_282250_7.pdf</a> ;</p> <p>14 Hunting and gathering rights for several Federally recognized Michigan tribes are established in the 2007 Inland Consent Decree (see evidence for indicator 14.1.2).</p>								

**Objective 19. Communications and Public Reporting.**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry by documenting progress and opportunities for improvement.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
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<b>19.1</b>	<b>A Certified Program Participant shall provide a summary audit report, prepared by the certification body, to SFI Inc. after the successful completion of a certification, recertification or surveillance audit to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.</b>	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	See indicator below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<b>19.1.1</b>	The summary audit report submitted by the <i>Program Participant</i> (one copy must be in English), shall include, at a minimum, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. a description of the audit process, <i>objectives</i> and scope;</li> <li>b. a description of substitute <i>indicators</i>, if any, used in the audit and a rationale for each;</li> <li>c. the name of <i>Program Participant</i> that was audited, including its SFI representative;</li> <li>d. a general description of the <i>Program Participant's</i> forestland and manufacturing operations included in the audit;</li> <li>e. the name of the <i>certification body</i> and <i>lead auditor</i> (names of the <i>audit team</i> members, including <i>technical experts</i> may be included at the discretion of the <i>audit team</i> and <i>Program Participant</i>);</li> <li>f. the dates the certification was conducted and completed;</li> <li>g. a summary of the findings, including general descriptions of evidence of conformity and any nonconformities and corrective action plans to address them, opportunities for improvement, and exceptional practices; and</li> <li>h. the certification decision.</li> </ul>	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	14 The 2013 audit public summary was submitted to Amy Doty on January 2, 2014.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
<b>19.2</b>	<b>Program Participants shall report annually to SFI Inc. on their conformance with the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.</b>	NB	14						
<b>Notes</b>	See indicators below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
19.2.1	Prompt response to the SFI annual progress report.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14 MI DNR 2013 SFI Program Participants Annual Report was submitted to Rachel Dierolf on March 25, 2014.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
19.2.2	Recordkeeping for all the categories of information needed for SFI annual progress reports.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14All categories of information for the report are covered by computerized record keeping systems (databases or reports) which are periodically updated. 14 Review of the 2013 report indicates recordkeeping is adequate.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
19.2.3	Maintenance of copies of past reports to document progress and improvements to demonstrate conformance to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	Past copies of reports are maintained by the MI DNR Forest Certification Coordinator. Results of external and internal audits and management review reports are also maintained on the DNR Forest Certification web page. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html</a>								

### Objective 20. Management Review and Continual Improvement.

To promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry, and to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
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20.1	<b>Program Participants shall establish a management review system to examine findings and progress in implementing the SFI Standard, to make appropriate improvements in programs, and to inform their employees of changes.</b>	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	See indicators below.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
20.1.1	System to review commitments, programs and procedures to evaluate effectiveness. Note: For multi-site programs the auditing requirements of Section 9 or the ISO MD-1 requirements must be followed (see Multi-site Checklist); at a minimum internal audits or monitoring that spans all sites and addresses the relevant part of the SFI Standard is expected.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 The MI DNR has an internal audit process for this purpose, as described in DNR Forest Certification Work Instruction 1.2. <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.2MgtReview_320940_7.pdf">http://www.michigan.gov/documents/dnr/WI_1.2MgtReview_320940_7.pdf</a></p> <p>14 Results of internal audits may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Michigan Department of Natural Resources has a robust and very well documented process of conducting internal audits and Internal NCRs. The auditor reviewed the Internal Audit Reports for Escanaba (2014 Internal Audit Report 8/4/14), Gaylord (2014 Internal Audit Report 7/31/14) and Shingleton (2014 Internal Audit Report 7/16/14). They document a robust internal audit program which includes OFIs and internal NCRs. The Forest Certification Coordinator tracks NCRs using “Status” spreadsheets.</p>								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
20.1.2	System for collecting, reviewing, and reporting information to management regarding progress in achieving SFI 2010-2014 Standard objectives and performance measures.	NB	14						
<i>Notes</i>	14 The system is described in MI DNR Work Instruction 1.2, and includes employment of a Forest Certification Coordinator, involvement of managers from all levels of the department, many programs for monitoring and recording plans and results of activities, mandatory annual reports to the Michigan Legislature. Also see evidence for indicators 20.1.2 and 20.1.3.								

	<b>2010-2014 Requirement</b>	Audit -or	<u>C</u>	<u>EXR</u>	<u>Maj</u>	<u>Min</u>	<u>OFI</u>	<u>Likely Gap *</u>	<u>Likely Conf. *</u>
20.1.3	Annual review of progress by management and determination of changes and improvements necessary to continually improve conformance to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard.	NB	14						

<i>Notes</i>	<p>14 Management Review Reports may be viewed at: <a href="http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html">http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-153-30301_33360_41834_68707-331520--,00.html</a></p> <p>14 Work Instruction 1.2 established a management review process to promote continual improvement in the management of the state forest system. Its purpose is to establish a systematic process for evaluation of forest management practices. The review includes a review of the previous year's implementation efforts and a formal management review meeting. The review was initiated by FRD and WLD Field Coordinators which compiled a draft report on February 2, 2014. The initial report was then reviewed by the management team and finally approved by the DNR Resource Bureau Management Team on June 23, 2014. The report includes a thorough discussion of the 2013 internal and external audit results and recommendations on how to improve the program and how to deal with issues identified in the audits.</p>
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### **Multi-site Certification – Two Options**

A multi-site organization is defined as an organization having an identified central function (hereafter referred to as a central office – but not necessarily the headquarters of the organization) at which certain activities are planned, controlled or managed and a network of local offices or branches (sites) at which such activities are fully or partially carried out.

#### **Option 1: Alternate Approach to Multi-site Certification Sampling based on the Requirements for the SFI 2010-2014 Program, Section 9, Part 5.1 & Appendix 1**

- a) What specific activities are planned, controlled or managed at the central office?  
Budgeting, inventory, support for research, management review, policies, procedures, guidance, and management planning.
- b) For each activity, provide evidence:  
See main checklist on preceding pages.

#### **General Eligibility Criteria:**

A legal or contractual link shall exist between all sites.

Yes  No Evidence the authority of the Michigan DNR and the powers of the Michigan State Forester to manage these lands extend across all sites. "Sites" are considered, for purposes of this checklist, to be the Forest Management Units within which state forests have been combined for management.

The scope and scale of activities carried out by participating sites shall be similar.

Yes  No Evidence All sites (Forest Management Units) are very similar in size, scope of activities, and use the same policies, procedures, etc.

The management system framework shall be consistent across all sites (allowing for site level procedures to reflect variable local factors).

Yes  No Evidence Field observations confirmed that land management is carried out for the same goals and using the same procedures and tools at all sites. See main checklist.

#### **Central Function Requirements:**

Provide a commitment on behalf of the whole multi-site organization to establish and maintain practices and procedures in accordance with the requirements of the relevant standard.

Yes  No Evidence: The commitment is documented in the Michigan DNR Director's directive to pursue dual certification (SFI and FSC) dated 10.20.10.

Provide all the sites with information and guidance needed for effective implementation and maintenance of practices and procedures in accordance with the relevant standard.

Yes  No Evidence: Guidance flows through various channels, with the Forest Certification Team and the Management Review Committee (aka The Integration Committee) being central to the management of certification-related issues. The Michigan DNR has a comprehensive set of Work

Instructions which detail a broad range of procedures, including provisions specific to certification. Field personnel know what they need to do. These work instructions are regularly updated, with changes communicated to the sites (FMUs).

Maintain the organizational or contractual connection with all sites covered by the multisite Organization including the right of the Central Function to exclude any site from participation in the certification in case of serious non-conformities with the relevant standard.

Yes  No Evidence Michigan DNR has the legal authority to exclude sites as needed.

Keep a register of all the sites of the multi-site organization, including (for SFI 2010-2014 Standard) the forest area associated with each participating site.

Yes  No Evidence A detailed list of lands within the scope is included in the documentation, and summarized in the scope statement.

Maintain an internal audit or monitoring program sufficient to provide annual performance data on overall organizational conformance with the relevant standard.

Yes  No Evidence Monitoring protocols are varied and widespread, with a focus on timber harvests and vegetation treatments. The internal audit program covers the complete range of issues and activities, including activities conducted at the dispersed sites (field) and those managed centrally. The internal audit program here is one of the strongest seen by the lead auditor. Internal audits were conducted in September 2014 at the Escanaba, Gaylord and Shingleton FMUs.

Maintain an internal audit or monitoring program sufficient to provide periodic performance data on overall organizational conformance with the relevant standard.

Yes  No Evidence Periodic monitoring, coupled with annual internal audits and regular monitoring, clearly meet the requirements.

Operate a review of the conformity of sites based on results of internal audit and/or monitoring data sufficient to assess Organizational performance as a whole rather than at the individual site level.

Yes  No Evidence DNR Management Review Field Meeting, June 23, 2014 (see notes under SFI Indicator 20.1.3).

Establish corrective and preventive measures if required and evaluate the effectiveness of corrective actions taken.

Yes  No Evidence Corrective and preventive measures stemming from the internal audits have been issued, and are revised regularly. Issues raised during third-party audits are addressed with other issues from internal audits or in various program's reviews and management processes. A review of the three internal audit reports demonstrated that internal NCRs (corrective action requests) and Observations were issued. Report of DNR Management Review Field Meeting and individual internal audit reports document follow-up actions.

Establish procedures for inclusion of new sites within the multi-site organization including an internal assessment of conformity with the standard, implementation of corrective and preventive measures and a requirement to inform the relevant certification body of changes in participation prior to including the sites within the scope of the certification.

Yes  No Evidence All appropriate lands are included; when lands are purchased they are added as appropriate. Auditors work with Michigan DNR each year to understand scope.

### **Individual Site Functions and Responsibilities**

Sites implement and maintain the requirements of the relevant standard.

Yes       No      Evidence      Field reviews and interviews; see main checklist.

Sites respond effectively to all requests from the Central Function or certification body for relevant data, documentation or other information whether in connection with formal audits or reviews or otherwise.

Yes       No      Evidence      Sites appear to comply with changes in the program driven by third-party audits, internal audits or other centrally-directed changes. Report of DNR Management Review Field Meeting and individual internal audit reports document follow-up actions.

Sites provide full co-operation and assistance in respect of the satisfactory completion of internal audits, reviews, monitoring, relevant routine enquiries or corrective actions.

Yes       No      Evidence      Sites are compliant and cooperative with centrally-issued directives and appear to be cooperating with the internal audit program; they clearly were fully-invested in the third-party audits.

Sites implement relevant corrective and preventive actions established by the central office.

Yes       No      Evidence      Responses to CARs indicate sites implement CAR plans which stem from third-party or internal audits. David Price, Forest Certification Coordinator, maintains a "CAR Tracking Form". Report of DNR Management Review Field Meeting and individual internal audit reports show that units have been responding to internal audit NCRs. Auditors reviewed some aspects of the internal CARs.

### **Option 2: NSF-ISR Multi-site Certification Justification based on MD1: 2007**

#### **Sampling and Non-sampling**

Option 1 was selected; Option 2 questions were deleted.

End of Multi-site Checklists

**Appendix IV**



**Field Sites and Meeting Attendees**

Newberry Surveillance Audit 10/7/14 - East Tour				Auditor: Boatwright
St o p #	Co m p	Name	Feature of interest	Auditor Notes
		Auditors arrive @ Newberry FO	Opening Meeting and FMU & District Briefs	
		FMU & District Briefs		
1	78	Charcoal Grade Project 42-007-14	Completed timber sale. Road RDR's issues with clay soil types, wetlands, limited water drainage. Road frequently used for logging activities, private land access, hunting access, and is a major snowmobile trail.	Daylighted 4.75 miles of road with 30' clearcuts on each side. Sale contract included repairing road: hauling fill, rock and replacing culverts.No issues.
2	78	Charcoal Grade BMP's/culvert issues	Equalization culverts replaced in summer of 2014 for the Charcoal Grade Project timber sale	5 culverts replaced with rip wrapped headwalls.
3	77	Penny Creek Crossing BMP	Pending bridge installation to replace culverts and mitigate perennial beaver problem and road washout issue. DEQ permit for work.	Good decision to remove culverts and use the bridge.
4	41	Rookie Ridge Red Pine 42-023-13	Active marked pine sale	Sale not complete. Good residual stocking with few skins. Review of uncut area indicates marking is good.
5	41	Tall Timber Red Pine 42-021-13	Completed timber sale. Marked, utility pole quality red pine. Little Two Hearted River adjacent to sale. North County Pathway in middle of sale area.	Good stocking with little damage to residuals.
6	38	Duck Lake Salvage #4 42-027-12	Completed salvage timber sale after Duck Lake Fire. Post-Review modification approval of salvage and cultivation-reforestation efforts.	Nice salvage job. Post-review modification process was successful.
7	38	JP planting in Duck Lake fire area	KW planting. Roller chopping to facilitate planting and reduce future fire hazard. Research permits issued to study fire effects.	Chopping done to allow planting in a fire damaged area that was not salvagable.
8	38	Rainbow Lodge Trespass	ERI resolution of land use issue. Possible Two Hearted Airstrip Lease agreement.	Parking area and well are on state land. Trespass resolved by giving the neighbor a 50'x450' strip inexchange for right-of-way into an adjacent tract.
9	33	New Guy Jack 42-013-12	Open timber sale. Near Two Hearted River. Retention pockets left in sale area.	Active job using processor and forwarder. Jack pine clearcut. Interviewed Keith (father) and Keith JR McNamara. No issues.
10	113	Bleach Bottle Spruce 42-022-13	Open timber sale - not active. Spruce Plantation clearcut and conversion to aspen. Alternative management objective is planted Red Pine. Private property adjacent to sale with mitigation of concerns. Adjacent PRD Multi-use parking lot.	Not visited due to time.
11	104	Natalie Boat Launch	Herbicide use to control phragmites in Dollarville flooding.	2nd aerial spray using 53.8 % glyphosate (AquaNeat)@ 6 pints/acre. Well written Pesticide Application Plan. Signs posted prior to the event.

Newberry Surveillance Audit 10/7/14 - West Tour				Auditor: Meister
Stop #	C o m p	Name	Feature of interest	Auditor Notes
		Auditors arrive @ Newberry FO	Opening Meeting and FMU & District Briefs	
		FMU & District Briefs		
1	1 0 8	Final Harvest Mix 42-027-13, FTP C42-841	Completed timber sale. Unit 3 chipping site. Planting FTP C42-841. Aspen area retention in Unit 1 along ORV Trail & lowland buffer. Snowmobile trail.	Old spruce plantation being converted to red pine due to site quality. Retention of spruce and aspen. Discussion of wildlife review.
2	1 0 7	West Locke Lake Hardwoods – 42-015-14	Contractor Marked Sale, not yet sold.	Northern hardwood sale with high density of maple; retain Hemlock, birch, cherry; 10-20 yr. re-entry period. RMZ buffer of 200 ft with no harvest.
3	1 0 3	McMillan Mix 42-021-08	Completed timber sale. Winter harvest, lowland conifer sale. Blocked temp roads off of County Road after harvest.	Discussion of winter operations.
4	1 0 2	Fourth of July Hardwoods 42-015-13	Contractor marked, completed timber sale. ORV Trail. BBD in stand.	Marked for heavy beech removal due to pathogen; attempt to recruit other hardwoods
5	1 0 2	New Puppy Hardwoods 42-017-13	Open timber sale. ORV Trail. Aspen Retention. Operating Restrictions.	Discussion of recreation management.
6	1 0 2	One Pond Mix 42-016-13	Active timber sale. Aspen retention within and outside of sale area.	Examination of aspen retention and compatibility with operations. Interview with contract loggers. Verification of location of retention pocket using GPS.
7	9 0	FTP W42-757 (oak planting), FTP W42-662 (Rx burn)	Prescribed burn to maintain wildlife opening. Planted oak to replace lost beech hard mast production.	Discussion of wildlife strategy, herbicide use, planting strategy, and tracking secondary treatments.
8	9 0	FTP C42-656	Recently planted red pine. Herbicide use to release the red pine.	
9	1 9	Headquarters Lake Campground, FTP P42-846	Campground closed in 2007 and re-opened in 2014 by PRD. Open to equestrian users.	Discussion of cooperation with recreation user groups.
10	1 7	Big Bump Pine 42-041-12, FTP C42-813	Open timber sale. Temp access from County road. Private property nearby.	Red pine thinning with removal of jack pine; retention of balsam fir, oak, and hemlock
11	1 7	Trout Creek Bridge	Portable bridge over Trout Creek to mitigate ORV damage (RDR site), and provide access to timber sale.	Beaver dam present. Bridge likely requires annual maintenance due to traffic and size.
12	2 0	Pretty Lakes Campground and DHA	Historically managed as undesignated quiet area. Currently a proposed DHA.	Discussion of ERA/DHA classification process and attributes of this proposed DHA.

<b>Shingleton Surveillance Audit 10/8/14 - Audit Route 1</b>				<b>Auditor: Meister</b>
<b>Stop #</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Feature of interest</b>	<b>Auditor Notes</b>
		Auditors arrive @ Shingleton FO	FMU Brief	
1	189	Star Siding Hardwood	Closed hardwood sale. Oak planting FTP	Sugar maple dominant; adjacent power line right of way used for wildlife corridor (maintained through mowing and planting grasses/forbs. Winter harvest for providing deer browse and cover in low density area
2	189	Wildlife Opening Powerline	Wildlife opening maintenance.	
3	187	Petrel 187 Mix	Closed timber sale	Unscheduled stop at Star Creek bridge; installed to specifications. Discussion of state-level plan for upgrading stream crossings. Petrel Mix includes northern hardwood selection and small clearcuts (8 acres) for aspen regeneration; similar retention strategy throughout sale (hemlock, cedar, white pine, oak)
4	180	Petrel Sunrise	Completed hardwood sale marked by contractors. Some BMPs and recreation interests.	Northern hardwood heavy to sugar maple. Late scheduled single-tree sel'n re-entry; higher basal area removed, but quality individuals retained.
5	180	Petrel Wildlife Openings	Wildlife habitat opening maintenance.	Maintained through mowing. Within larger matrix of northern hardwood stands.
6	180	Petrel Rd	Road maintenance work.	Examination of new culverts
7	172	Melstrand MoleHills	Open hardwood sale with wet seep.	Single-tree sel'n of northern hardwood stand; vernal pool and seep identified post-marking, but prior to harvest.
8	167	167 Pilot	"Pilot Sale" prepared and administered by contractors. Archeological site excluded.	Lower quality northern hardwood site; larger openings, but with retention of birch, cherry, and conifers. Harvest red maple, cherry, beech, and balsam fir to free space for residual stand and reduce impacts of BBD. Contractor marked and administered as part of pilot project.
9	142	Compartment 142	Beech herbicide treatment.	Experiment to control beech regeneration

10	136	Kingston Lake Hardwood	Active timber sale. Archeological site nearby.	One-step shelterwood treatment to favor hemlock, white pine, and yellow birch. Remove BBD-affected beech. Retention of groups and dispersed individuals.
11	136	Kingston Lake Campground	Fisheries FTP. Invasive species herbicide treatment. Campground.	Observation of Phragmites treatment and discussion of use of forest resources within the RMZ to enhance fish habitat.

<b>Shingleton Surveillance Audit 10/8/14 - Audit Route 2</b>			<b>Auditor: Boatwright</b>	
<b>St op #</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Feature of interest</b>	<b>Auditor Notes</b>
		Auditors arrive @ Shingleton FO	FMU Brief	
1	26	Sasquatch Thornapple Timbersale	Open timber sale - not active. Portable bridge installation for access.	Well placed bridge with plenty freeboard on each end.
2	27	Cranberry Pine	Active timber sale.	Active jack pine clear cut with good retention in Stutts Creek buffer and single tree retention of red and white pine. No issues.
3	28	PLFB Trespass	ERI Trespass case	Cabin and outhouse on state land. Resolved by Encroachment Resolution Initiative where the state deeded them a portion to square things up.
4	36	Beechenstein	Active hardwood timber sale - partially cut. Beech salvage.	Beech salvage and mixed hardwood improvement cut. Cut by hand with little damage to residuals and good stocking.
5, 6	42,60	Stray Bullets and Camp 9 Pine	Completed timber sales. Herbicide release and herbicide site prep.	Site prep and trench plant and release with 3 quarts/acre. Treatment appeared to be successful.
7	58	Brace Creek	Snowmobile trail matting and chip fill completed by grant sponsors.	Club used a \$12,000 grant from the Forestry Dept. to install a gate for the trail and to use wood chips to matt a portion of the trail through a low area.
8	74	14 Corners	Active hardwood timber sale marked by contractors for beech salvage.	Incomplete beech salvage and mixed hardwood improvement cut with little damage to residuals and good stocking Contractors trained by DNR.

9	42	FTP W41-1605	Turkey opening maintenance	26 acre existing open acres disked, fertilized and planted with native grasses. Not budgeted but they had funding which was approved by a Chapter 7 request.
10	81	Westshore Hardwoods	Open hardwood sale marked by contractors for beech salvage.	Incomplete beech salvage and mixed hardwood improvement cut with little damage to residuals and good stocking Contractors trained by DNR. Inspection of uncut area indicates marking was good.
10 b		Unscheduled special site	Sink holes	Uncommon geomorphic feature was excluded from the sale area.
11	81	Westshore Red Pine	Open Red Pine sale - no harvesting yet. Prescription change after detection of armalaria in stand.	Red pine thin and clearcut with buffer of armalaria spots. No issues
11 b	81	Unscheduled proposed ERA	Open Red Pine sale - no harvesting yet. Prescription change after detection of armalaria in stand.	Intermittent wetland with shallow grassed lakes is a proposed ESA area.

Escanaba Surveillance Audit 10/9/14 - East Audit Route				Auditor: Boatwright
Stop #	Comp	Name	Feature of interest	Auditor Notes
		District Brief	District Overview and Issues	
1	78	Government Wolf	Open timber sale no work	Hardwood timber stand improvement marked by DNR. Marking looked good. Sale borders a special conservation area.
2	40	Fox Road Mix	Closed timber sale	Multi-site sale with different prescriptions: red pine seed tree cut, aspen regen cut and lowland hardwood shelterwood cut. No issues.
3	45	South Fox Scarification	Scarification for Red Pine regeneration	Scarified in 2011 after a red pine seed tree cut. Stocking count was below the minimum so will clearcut, trench and plant.
4	45	Worth ERA	ERA site - old growth	ERA potential old growth. 3 acre stand with hemlock, yellow birch and beech. Was gifted to the state in 1945.
5	55	551 Fawn	Active timber sale	Not visited due to time.
6	54	Chemical Use	FTP for herbicide site prep - planting	Red pine clearcut and herbicide in August with skidder applying 3 quarts/acre Rodeo. Will trench and plant.
7	54	Westman Lake	Closed timber sale	Aspen regen clearcut with wood area and single retention.

8	47	Walking Frog	Open timber sale no work	Not visited due to time.
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Escanaba Surveillance Audit 10/9/14 - West Audit Route				Auditor: Meister
Stop #	Comp	Name	Feature of interest	Auditor Notes
		District Brief	District Overview and Issues	
1	4/5	Carney Fen	ERA - Natural Area	Discussion of ERA classification process and use of MNFI data; involvement of volunteers in monitoring and protection; and cooperation with adjacent power line right-of-way to prevent invasive species.
2	1	Lotta Sugar	Active timber sale	Larger aspen clearcut with retention pockets mapped; adjacent northern hardwood stands marked for single-tree sel'n. Interviews with logging contractors and inspection of site for safety.
3	22	Boneyard Mix	Open timber sale some work has been done but no active now	Observation of oak wilt treatment site using harvesting and root-severing, discussion of oak wilt management strategy.
4	XX	Confidential site	Confidential site	Observation of archaeological protection measures.
		Escanaba District Office	Closing Meeting	Issuance of draft findings and discussion of next steps

10/8/14

## SHINGLETON OPENING MEETING

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Position</u>
S NORRIS BOBINKIENI	SFI LEAD
S Daniel Freeman	NSF Project Mgr.
N Kevin Swanson	Biologist
N Jerry Fitzgibbin	DNR LAW DIV - C.O.
N Jeff Stamply	DNR MGT FRD
S Don Kuhn	DNR EUP TMS
S Kristen Matson	DNR FRD EUP IPS
S Adam Petrelus	Forester Manistique
N Scott Kentner	Forester Shingleton
S Toni Irving	Forester Manistique
S Sheila Clark	Forester Manistique
N Jay Osterberg	Fire Officer, Seney
N Troy Sumner	Park Ranger
N Lee Vaughn	DNR PRD
N Todd Markham	Fire Seney
N Dan Moore	EUP Dist, PRD
S Don Brown	WLD Casino
S Amy Clark Eagle	FRD Lansing
N Sherry Mackinnon	WLD Ecologist - Newberry
N Deb Begalle	FRD - Forest Planning Ops Mgr
S Scott Lakosky	FRD - Fire Supervisor - Shingleton
N Bob Burham	FRD - UM
N Penny Melchior	DNR - WD (Roselake) Field Coord
S David Price	DNR - FRD CERT coord
N Cory Kovacs	DNR - Fish - fish Biologist



	<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
N	Rick-James Hill	Forester - Shingleton
N	Bretton A. Bednarski	Fire - Shingleton
S	Steve Tuonla	Fire - Wyman
S	Rob Katona	PRD Rec Specs
N	Tom Paquin	PRD REP
N	Steve Scott	Fish - L. Superior Manager
N	Mario Mohr	Forester shingleton
S	Scott Jones	For. Mgmt Planning Specialist Lansing
S	Rose Wilbur	Secretary - FRD - Shingleton Newberry
S	Terry Minzey	



# Newberry East

## Please Sign IN

1. Ann Douglas
2. Ryan Mattik
3. Craig Krapp
4. Penney Melchoir
5. ~~Vernd Borikent~~
6. Craig Albright
7. Dan Freeman
8. LORI BURFORD
9. P.S. COSTA
10. Keith Maguire
11. Deb Becalle
12. ~~Sherry Blackmon~~
13. Skip Nagy
14. Jeff STAMPELY
15. Lee Vaughn
16. Rob Katina
17. David Price
- 18.
- 19.



10/9/14

# ESCARABA OPENING MEETING

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>
<del>Norman B. B. B. B. B.</del>	SFI Auditor
Penney Melchior	DNR-WID Field Coord.
Craig Albright	PNR - WLD Field Manager U.P.
Sherry MacInnon	Wildlife Ecologist UP Region
William Doan	WUP-Parks & Rec District Sup
Darrell Welch	UP Land Use Spec.
John Hamel	WUP - inventory Spec.
DARREN KRAMER	Fisheries - N. Man
Dan McNamee	Escanaba MU - Forester
Steve Sawilk	Escanaba mu - Fire Supervisor
Dan Racine	Escanaba - Forester
Dusty Arsnoe	Escanaba Wildlife Biologist
Eric Thompson	Escanaba MU - Forest Unit Supervisor
Deb Bugalle	FRD - Planning & Ops Mgr
Dan Freeman	NSF Project Manager
Rob Katona	PRD Rec Specialist
Jeff STAMFLY	FRD MGT OSK
Kyle Meister	SCS
Tom Seabloom	FRD WUP T M G
John Wenzel	LEO
MARVIN G. GERLACH	LEO
Colter Lubben	WLD



10/9/14

# MIT DNR 2014 Closing Meeting

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
<del>Scott Jones</del>	
<del>Heather</del>	
<del>Alyssa</del>	
<u>NORTON BOASTMENT</u>	<u>SKL LEAD</u>
Debbie Begalle	FRD - Planning & Ops Section
Penny Melchior	WD Wildlife Field Coord.
Sherry Mackinnon	Wildlife Ecologist
Jeff Stimpfky	FRD DIST SUPERVISOR MAT
Tom Seaborn	FRD Wast & PTMS
Jeff Kakuk	PRD ESC. UNIT SUPERVISOR
Darrell Welch	FRD UP Land Use
John Hamel	FRD WUP inventory SPC
Eric Thompson	FRD Unit Manager
William Doan	PRD WUP District Sup.
Dan Freeman	NSF Project Manager



2014 CERT AUDIT CLOSING MEETING  
(COLLTD)

Scott Jones

Lee Vaughn

Amy Clark Eagle

Scott Weather

Kirch Magnuson

Jason Takor

Amy Douglas

Mark Payment

Rose Wilbur

Ryan ~~Smith~~ Maffie

Kristi Sitar

Bob Burnham

Scott Lakoski

Scott Ritner

Rick Hill

Pete Wright

Roger Jones

Kushin Satter

Dan Bodrean

Dusty ~~Arsenault~~ Arsenore

Colter Lubben

Coag Albright

+ Terry Winzey

Lori Buford

Steve Millard

Steve Scott

Cary Kovacs



## Appendix V



# SFI Reporting Form (no other changes)

Scope: SFI Objectives 1-7 and 14-20 on 4 million acres of Michigan State Forest. Exclusions: Long-term military lease lands, lands leased to Luce County, and Wildlife Areas that do not go through the compartment review process are not included in the scope of the certificate. The SFI Certificate Number is NSF-SFIS-5Y031.