



## Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. 2023 SFI® Fiber Sourcing Public Summary Audit

### Introduction

Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. of Mobile, Alabama has demonstrated conformance to SFI® 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standards in accordance with the NSF certification process.

Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. is a forest products company with US corporate headquarters located in Mobile, AL, that operates fourteen (14) sawmills within seven (7) states. The facilities are located in Mobile, Fulton and Jackson, Alabama; Urbana, Arkansas; Thomasville and Moultrie, Georgia; Hermanville, Mississippi; DeRidder, Louisiana; Graham, North Carolina; Camden, Conway, Darlington, Marion and Estill, South Carolina. The certified organization procures southern yellow pine logs for use within its manufacturing operations.

Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. maintains a verifiable monitoring system for the use of best management practices by wood producers supplying raw material to their facilities. Implementation of Best Management Practices is monitored during the harvesting operations on purchased stumpage tracts and reviews of State BMP monitoring data. Monitoring information is summarized, reviewed and communicated during the annual management review.

The audit was performed by NSF on 12-16 June 2023 by an audit team headed by Shannon Wilks, Lead Auditor. Audit team members fulfill the qualification criteria for conducting audits contained in SFI 2022 Procedures and Auditor Qualifications and Accreditation.

The objective of the audit was to assess conformance of the firm's SFI Program to the requirements of the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard.

The scope of the audit included fiber procurement activities. Field inspections were conducted on active and completed timber sales of purchased stumpage during the audit.

One of the SFI Section 3 requirements was outside of the scope of Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. SFI program and was excluded from the scope of the audit as follows:

- Objective 8-Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. does not have Public Land Management Responsibilities.

### Audit Process

The audit was governed by a detailed audit plan designed to enable the audit team to efficiently determine conformance with the applicable requirements. The plan provided for the assembly and review of audit evidence consisting of documents, interviews, and on-site inspections of ongoing or completed forest practices.

During the audit NSF reviewed a sample of the written documentation assembled to provide objective evidence of conformance. NSF 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 protocols. NSF selected and interviewed stakeholders such as contract harvest contractors and interviewed employees within the organization to confirm that the SFI Standard was understood and actively implemented.

The possible findings of the audit included conformance, major non-conformance, minor non-conformance, opportunities for improvement, and practices that exceeded the requirements of the standard.

### Overview of Audit Findings

Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. was found to be in conformance with the standard. NSF determined that there were -0- non-conformances and -1- opportunity for improvement.

Indicator 2.2.1.a.: Confirmed that harvests of purchased stumpage comply with best management practices.

Opportunity for Improvement: Observation during field site visit to Tract #61088 confirmed residual logging debris was left within ephemeral drain. No impacts to water flow or BMPs was confirmed. There is an Opportunity to Improve the removal of logging debris from drains that carry water during inclement periods.

This finding does not indicate a current deficiency but served to alert Canfor, Inc. to areas that could be strengthened or which could merit future attention.



## General Description of Conformity to SFI 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standard Objectives

A summary of the evidence of the organization's conformance to the SFI 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standard Objectives follows:

### Objective 1. Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing

To address the practice of sustainable forestry by conserving biological diversity.

Why it Matters: Conserving biological diversity protects wildlife habitat and ensures healthy forests.

Notes: Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (FECV) assessments have been conducted in coordination with consultant and results have been distributed to raw material vendors. Organization also supports development of FECV Assessments within SFI SIC Committees. Implementation within SIC Committee's is within various stages of implementation. FECV sheets are supplied to wood suppliers on annual basis.

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### Objective 2. Adherence to Best Management Practices

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

Why it Matters: Protecting water quality and quantity helps ensure safe and abundant drinking water for all.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. utilizes contractual language within executed agreements for compliance to Best Management Practices, qualified logging professionals and all regulations. Monitoring is conducted to verify compliance on all purchased stumpage tracts and State BMP monitoring data is utilized for open market vendors. Documented procedures and inventory levels are utilized to ensure protection of soil and water quality during harvesting operations. All field sites observed contained water controls and riparian management zones (where applicable) to protect water quality.

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### Objective 3. Use of Qualified Resource Professionals, Qualified Logging Professionals and SFI-Certified Logging Companies

To promote and utilize qualified logging professionals, qualified resource professionals and SFI-certified logging companies.

Why it Matters: Training logging professionals helps landowners implement effective forest management practices.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. utilizes contractual language within executed agreements for compliance to Best Management Practices, qualified logging professionals and all regulations. Field sites observed were harvested by Georgia Master Timber Harvester qualified contractors. No evidence of Best Management Practice violations were observed.

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### Objective 4. Legal and Regulatory Compliance

To comply with all applicable laws and regulations including international, federal, provincial, state, and local.

Why it Matters: Compliance with all laws ensures the protection of the environmental and social values of forests.

Notes: Review of organizations framework of policies, procedures and monitoring processes confirmed system for compliance with all required regulatory requirements. No active or pending actions were confirmed during the audit related to forest operations.

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### Objective 5. Forestry Research, Science, and Technology

To invest in research, science, and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based.

Why it Matters: Investing in forest research means healthier, more productive forests.

Notes: Not audited in 2023.

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### Objective 6. Training and Education

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

Why it Matters: Training and educating foresters means forest management plans are more accurately implemented, ensuring the well-being of our forests.

Notes: Organization has roles and responsibilities documented within procedures. Management of certification program by trained experienced forest professionals was confirmed during audit. Training is implemented and monitored for Canfor personnel and harvest contractors. Professional consultant was utilized for review of certification program and training of personnel.

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**Objective 7. Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach**

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education, and involvement and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.

Why it Matters: Outreach and education improves the public’s understanding of how important sustainable forestry is to local and global issues.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. has made financial and in-kind contributions to Louisiana and Georgia Forestry Associations and SIC’s. The associations and SIC’s are responsible for the development of landowner educational resources for sustainable forest management practices. Landowner educational documents are given to owners of purchased stumpage tracts, consultants, harvest contractors and others upon request.

**Objective 8. Public Land Management Responsibilities**

To participate and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.

Why it Matters: Protects the environmental, social, and economic values of public forests.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. does not have public land management responsibilities.

**Objective 9. Communications and Public Reporting**

To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard.

Why it Matters: Reporting the results of third-party audits increases the public’s understanding of forest certification.

Notes: Review of SFI website confirms Public Summary Report is posted for previous audit. SFI Annual Progress reports were submitted prior to deadline.

**Objective 10. Management Review and Continual Improvement**

To promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry by conducting a management review and monitoring performance.

Why it Matters: Encouraging continual improvement of sustainable forestry practices, a cornerstone of sustainable forestry.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. conducts an internal audit for all sites for monitoring of certification requirements. Management Review was conducted with results of the Internal Audit, Best Management Practices and various other certification elements documented.

**Objective 11. Avoid Controversial Sources**

To manage the risk of sourcing fiber products from controversial sources.

Why it Matters: A due diligence system minimizes the risk of sourcing from controversial sources whether in the United States, Canada or offshore.

Notes: Canfor Southern Pine, Inc. has developed a documented Due Diligence System and Risk Assessment to review all sources of raw material for avoidance of controversial sources. Review of procurement process, detailed set of procedures, technical platforms, field monitoring, system of internal audits and management review confirmed adequate process. No controversial sources of raw material was identified or observed during audit.

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