

Forest Stewardship Council®







Forest Management Certification Audit Report

FSC-FM-V1-0 - EN

Certificate holder

Certificate holder name Clergue Forest Management Inc.

Address 688B Second Line EastP6B 4K3, Sault Ste. Marie,

Ontario, CANADA

Vince Strack

Email Vince.strack@clergue.com

Telephone +1-249-356-4016

Website --

Contact person

Former certificate code (if any)
Certificate code
BV-FM/COC-001550
BV-FM/COC-407103
FSC license code
Audit type
Surveillance

Audit type Surveillance
Audit start date Jun 14, 2021
Date of report Jul 22, 2021
Certification date Jun 21, 2005

Certification body

Certification body name Bureau Veritas Certification Holding SASV

Address Le Triangle de L'Arche, CS 90096, Cours du Triangle,

92937, La Défense Cedex, France

Contact person Krzysztof Wypij

Email krzysztof.wypij@bureauveritas.com

Telephone +48 691 104 484

Website https://certification.bureauveritas.com/wood-scheme-certification-

documents-and-standards



Table of Contents

Intr	oduction	3
1.	Description of forest management	3
2.	Summary of forest context and management plan	8
3.	Standard(s)	11
4.	The evaluation process	11
5.	Corrective actions from previous audit	17
6.	Observations \$	25
7.	Certification decision	29
Anr	nex A –Certification Body's Checklist or Appendix	31

Table of Figures

Introduction

SLIMFs: The elements marked with an asterisk (*) in this report are NOT required in the case of certificates issued to single SLIMF MU but are required for all other certificates.

Voluntary fields: The elements marked with hashtag (#) in this report are NOT mandatory but can be completed voluntarily.

Non-public fields: The elements marked with dollar symbol (\$) in this report will NOT be reproduced in the FM public summary, e.g. personal information.

Unit: Data presented in the report will be provided in metric system units. If nonmetric units are used, conversion rates will be indicated below, and an automatic conversion into metric units will be performed and stored in the cloud.

The entire report is based on the same units for one type of measure, which are selected from unit drop-down lists and the selections are synchronous across the document.

Unit of area: 1 ha equals 1 ha, e.g. forest area, HCV area.

Unit of volume: 1 m3 equals 1 m³, used for wood related product.

Unit of weight: 1 ton equals 1 metric ton, used for non-timber products i.e. bamboo, rubber and resin.

Unit of **pesticide**: **kg**, kg of dry mass is preferred rather than litres, due to unknown concentrations.

Repeating section:

This report contains many repeating sections e.g. species, MU/RMU, non-conformities etc., please add more tables by clicking **plus (+)** button.

1. Description of forest management

Forest management enterprise (FME) information		
1.1 Type of FM certificate	Single MU	
1.2 Total area under evaluation	1075685.0 ha	
1.3 Dual-certified area certified both as FSC and another scheme*	0 ha	
1.4 Forest zone	Temperate	
1.5 Male forest workers	121	
1.6 Female forest workers	40	
1.7 Third parties related/impacted by forest management activities	☑ Local communities☐ Traditional peoples☑ Indigenous Peoples	
1.8 Third party description (existence, interests or activities etc.)*	The FMU is actively used by the public and other stakeholders including mineral exploration, trappers, 8 Indigenous communities traditional uses, recreational uses (e.g. fishing, hunting, trail biking, ATVing, snowmobiling).	
1.9 Area of forest owned/managed but excluded from MUs in the scope of certification	542547.0 ha	
1.10 Total growing stock of broadleaves #	74341148 m3	
1.11 Total growing stock of conifers #	50388057 m3	
1.12 Ecosystem services(ES) in the scope	□Yes (annex B to be completed)	

1.13 Change	of scope since previous audit	□Yes, the scop	pe has changed as described below:
i. Mair		cluded in scope	e of certificate (botanical name and
1 1 1			
1.14 Species	Picea_mariana	1.15 Product code	⊠W1.1 Roundwood (logs) ⊠W1.2 Fuel wood
	Picea_glauca (White Spruce)		
	Note: Author's name of species		□W1.3 Twigs □W3.1 Wood chips
	will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.		□N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	SPF	1.17 Current annual harvest	20295 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Includes small amount of fuelwood for personal and industrial use	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
ii. Mair	commercial timber species in	cluded in scope	e of certificate (botanical name and
		mmon trade nan	
1.14	Pinus_strobus	1.15 Product	⊠W1.1 Roundwood (logs)
Species		code	□W1.2 Fuel wood
	Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report,		□W1.3 Twigs
	but only in the database. The "_"		□W3.1 Wood chips
	symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.		□N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Sawlogs/Pulp	1.17 Current annual harvest	855 m3
1.18	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with	None. m3
Remarks#		FSC claim since previous audit/year	
iii. Mair	commercial timber species in	cluded in scope	e of certificate (botanical name and
	cor	mmon trade nan	ne)
1.14	Pinus_resinosa	1.15 Product	⊠W1.1 Roundwood (logs)
Species		code	□W1.2 Fuel wood
	Note: Author's name of species		□W1.3 Twigs
	will not be displayed in the report,		□W3.1 Wood chips
	but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.		□N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	SPF	1.17 Current annual harvest	8092 m3

1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
iv. Main		cluded in scope nmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and le)
1.14 Species	Pinus_banksiana Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	☑W1.1 Roundwood (logs)☑W1.2 Fuel wood☐W1.3 Twigs☐W3.1 Wood chips☐N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	SPF	1.17 Current annual harvest	3472 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Small amount of fuelwood – 46 m3. 1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year		None. m3
v. Main		cluded in scope nmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and
1.14 Species	Abies_ balsamifera	1.15 Product code	⊠W1.1 Roundwood (logs) □W1.2 Fuel wood
	Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.		□W1.3 Twigs □W3.1 Wood chips □N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	SPF	1.17 Current annual harvest	422 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
vi. Main	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	cluded in scope nmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and
1.14	Thuja_occidentalis	1.15 Product	⊠W1.1 Roundwood (logs)
Species	Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	code	 W1.1 Roundwood (logs) W1.2 Fuel wood □W1.3 Twigs □W3.1 Wood chips □N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Cedar	1.17 Current annual harvest	51 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Small amount of personal use fuelwood recorded – 4 m3.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3

vii. Main		cluded in scope mmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and ne)
1.14 Species	Populus_tremuloides Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	☑W1.1 Roundwood (logs)☐W1.2 Fuel wood☐W1.3 Twigs☑W3.1 Wood chips☐N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Pulp/Veneer	1.17 Current annual harvest	3341 m3
1.18 Click or tap here to enter text. Remarks# Click or tap here to enter text. 1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year		None. m3	
viii. Main			of certificate (botanical name and
	COI	mmon trade nam	ne)
1.14 Species	Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	⋈W1.1 Roundwood (logs)⋈W1.2 Fuel wood□W1.3 Twigs□W3.1 Wood chips□N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Fuelwood	1.17 Current annual harvest	7 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Mostly fuelwood harvested.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
ix. Main	the contract of the contract o	cluded in scope mmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and
1.14 Species	Acer_ spp Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	 ⋈W1.1 Roundwood (logs) ⋈W1.2 Fuel wood □W1.3 Twigs □W3.1 Wood chips □N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Sawlogs/Pulp	1.17 Current annual harvest	42175 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Personal use firewood – 124 m3.	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
x. Main		cluded in scope mmon trade nam	of certificate (botanical name and ne)

1.14 Species	Betula_ alleghaniensis Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	☑W1.1 Roundwood (logs)☑W1.2 Fuel wood☐W1.3 Twigs☐W3.1 Wood chips☐N5.1 Natural bamboo
1.16 Trade name#	Sawlogs/Pulp	1.17 Current annual harvest	6121 m3
1.18 Remarks#	Small amount of personal use firewood reported – 3 m3	1.19 Sold with FSC claim since previous audit/year	None. m3
xi. Mair			of certificate (botanical name and
	COI	mmon trade nam	ne)
1.14 Species	Betula_ papyrifera Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation purposes.	1.15 Product code	■W1.1 Roundwood (logs) W1.2 Fuel wood W1.3 Twigs W3.1 Wood chips N5.1 Natural bamboo
	Betula_ papyrifera Note: Author's name of species will not be displayed in the report, but only in the database. The "_" symbol is used instead of a space for spelling check and validation	1.15 Product	 W1.1 Roundwood (logs) W1.2 Fuel wood □W1.3 Twigs □W3.1 Wood chips □N5.1 Natural bamboo

i. NTFP - non-timber forest product included in scope of certificate				
1.20 Species #	none (No species validation for NTFP, can be null here)	1.21Product code of NTFP	Choose an item.	
1.22 Trade name#	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.23 Current annual harvest	Click or tap here to enter text. ton	

	i. Pesticide use since previous audit/year					
1.24 Active ingredient		1.25 Applied area	0 ha			
1.26 Reason for use	Click or tap here to enter text.	1.27 Quantity of ingredient	Click or tap here to enter text. kg			
1.28 Summary of ESRA (If applicable)		1.29 Environmental and social risk assessment (ESRA)	☐ Applicable			

2. Summary of forest context and management plan

Definition for MU and RMU:

Management Unit (MU): A spatial area or areas submitted for FSC certification with clearly defined boundaries managed to a set of explicit long-term management objectives which are expressed in a management plan. This area or areas include(s):

- all facilities and area(s) within or adjacent to this spatial area or areas under legal title or Management control of, or operated by or on behalf of The Organization, for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives; and
- all facilities and area(s) outside, and not adjacent to this spatial area or areas and operated by or on behalf of The Organization, solely for the purpose of contributing to the management objectives.

(Source: FSC 2011).

Resource Management Unit (RMU): the management units within a group managed by the same Resource Manager. The management units within an RMU do not need to belong to the same forest owner, they can belong to many different owners.

Note: The total area of MU/RMU shall be consistent with total area under evaluation. In case of a large number of small group members, they shall be sub-grouped to RMU(s) by geographical location or tenure, and inserted in to the MU/RMU tables one by one.

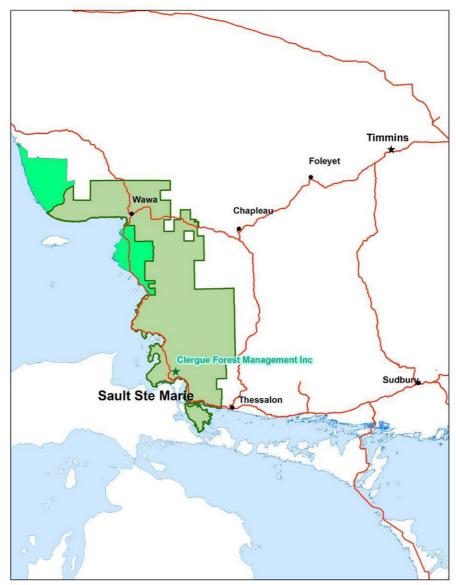
Please click the add button for more MU/RMUs to be added, the total area of all MU/RMU shall be consistent with area under evaluation on page 3. In the scenario of a large number of group members, the total area can be reported at group entity level with total area of members.

i. MU/RMU					
2.37 MU/RMU name	Algoma Forest	2.38 Tenure- ownership	State	2.39 Tenure- management	Private
2.40 Centroid Longitude*	47 03 25 N	2.41 Centroid Latitude*	83 55 20 W	2.42 SLIMF type	Non-SLIMF
2.43 Plantation area	0.0 ha	2.44 Replanted forest area	3318 ha	2.45 Natural regenerated forest area	25285 ha
2.46 Conservation area	136483 ha	2.47 Strictly protected area	0.0 ha	2.48 NTFP area	0 ha
2.49 Total area of MU/RMU (automated)	28603.0 ha	2.50 Annual allowable cut (AAC)	656600 m3	2.51 Area with ecosystem services claim#	0 ha

		НС	V list
2.52 Main HCV attribute	2.53 Secondary HCV attribute #		2.55 HCV description

HCV1 Species diversity	Choose an item.	37977 ha	1) Biodiversity/Species at risk. SAR AOC area on managed forest (wood turtle, pregrine falcon, bats eagles)
HCV1 Species diversity	Choose an item.	92145 ha	2) Biodiversity/Species at risk – Woodland caribou (Lake Superior coastal continuous habitat zone) – potential habitat in Algoma Forest
HCV1 Species diversity	Choose an item.	258413 ha	3) Biodiversity – Critical habitat for featured species (Moose aquatic feeding areas and White-tailed deer wintering areas)
HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats	Choose an item.	70 ha	1) Rare plant communities in protected areas. (American dune grass, Great Lakes arctic, tamarack coniferous)
HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats	Choose an item.	1 ha	2) A picetum – experimental spruce plantings.
HCV3 Ecosystems and habitats	HCV1 Species diversity	4025 ha	3) Hemlock dominated
HCV5 Community needs		2507 ha	1) Trails – bike trails and snowmobile trails, grave site (possible HCV)
HCV6 Cultural values		3872 ha	1) Indigenous Peoples identified cultural values, estimate, different communities and values overlap.

Note: The secondary HCV attribute should be completed only if two HCV attributes overlap in the same area, e.g. one piece of land is qualifies as both HCV 3 and 4. Please add rows for boundary separated HCV areas.



2 Figure 1. A map showing the Algoma Forest and surrounding communities.

2020-2030 Algoma Forest Management Plan Plan Text - January 24, 2020 Page 34

Figure 1 Forest Map of the MU

Additional flexible rich text including pictures and tables can be inserted below: #Please copy or elaborate here:

3. Standard(s)

3.1 Standard(s) used for evaluation	FM standard type: National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS) based on V5
	Related standards:
	☑ Trademark standard FSC-STD-50-001
	☐ Group standard FSC-STD-30-005
	☐ ES procedure FSC-PRO-30-006
3.2 Reference to FM standard used	FSC National Forest Stewardship Standard of Canada (FSC-STD-CAN-01-2018 EN)
3.3 http link to the standard used	https://ca.fsc.org/download-box.2364.htm
3.4 If applicable, the adaptation process of CB interim standard*	

4. The evaluation process

The evaluation dates						
4.1 Audit start date	Jun 14, 2021					
4.2 Audit finish date	Jun 17, 2021					
4.3 Total person days	15 (12md on site, 3 off site)					

Note: The total person days spent on the evaluation including time spent on remote work and time spent carrying out on-site work (incl. review of documents and records, interviewing stakeholders), but excluding travel to and from the region in which the certified forest is located.

Personnel/audit team\$							
4.4 Name	4.5 Role	4.6 Person days	4.7 Expertise	4.8 Auditor UAN	4.9 Profile (brief introduction of the person)		
Sarah Bros, R.P.F.	Team leader	7	Forestry	Click or tap here to enter text.	forester with 40 years' experience in		

Brian Callaghan, R.P.F.	Team member	4	Forestry	Click or tap here to enter text.	Mr. Callaghan is forester who has been leading and participating in FSC FM audits since 1999. His background is in planning, analysis and operations with regard to forest management.
Laird Van Damme, M.Sc. F., R.P.F.	Team member	4	Ecology	Click or tap here to enter text.	Mr. Van Damme has been a consultant to the forest industry and governments across Canada since 1984. Laird is an adjunct professor specializing in forest policy, forest products marketing and silviculture at Lakehead University. Mr. Van Damme is an FSC® FM qualified lead auditor and has participated in audits since 1996.

	Sampling and documents						
4.10 Sampling system employed for the audit							
employed for the addit	☐2 cluster sampling						
	☐3 random sampling						
	☐4 systematic sampling						
4.11 Rationale for selection of MU/ members	Harvest and silviculture blocks in both the boreal and temperate areas of the FMU were randomly selected for review						
4.12 Documentation reviewed	⊠1 copies of applicable laws						
during this audit	⊠2 long term management plan(s)						
	⊠3 technical management guides relating to operations						
	☐4 concession agreements						
	⊠5 documentation showing tenure or land-use rights						
	⊠6 up to date maps of roads, management sites, etc						
	⊠7 inventory records						
	⊠8 work instructions						
	⊠9 contractor contracts						
	□10 agreements with affected local communities						
	⊠11 agreements with affected Indigenous Peoples, etc						
	⊠13 records of complaints/disputes and resolution						
	☐14 records of payments to workers						
	☐15 wildlife evaluation records						
	⊠16 environmental impacts monitoring records						
	□17 social impact survey results						
	⊠18 results of monitoring forest growth and health						

	⊠19 harvesting and production records
	☐20 chemical use records
	⊠21 communications with stakeholders
	⊠22 purchasing and sales documentation
4.13 Additional techniques employed for evaluation*	Sampling included random stops along the route (e.g. water crossings, road grading issues, bridges) from one audit site to the next that were not included in the audit sample.
4.14 Number of accidents since previous audit	None
4.15 Average wage for male workers including contractors \$#	
4.16 Average wage for female workers including contractors \$#	
4.17 Total local employment since previous audit (persons year) \$#	
4.18 Indirect surcharge for FSC certification since previous audit \$#	
4.19 Number of Stakeholders affected by operations since previous audit/year \$#	
4.20 List of compensation provided to local communities with regard to the impacts of management activities \$#	None

4.21 Document name and date reviewed during this audit (Free text) \$

- 1. 2020-2030 Forest Management Plan for the Algoma Forest
- 2. HCVF Report updated 2020
- 3. 2021-2022 Annual Work Schedule
- 4. Annual Reports 2019-2020, 2018-2019
- 5. Forest Operations Inspection Reports (FOIP)
- 6. Shareholder's Agreement
- 7. 2016 Independent Forest Audit
- 8. Overlapping License Agreements
- 9. Clergue Health and Safety Manual
- 10. CFMI Indigenous Relations Policy
- 11. Indigenous Data-sharing Agreements
- 12. Customized Consultation Approach with IP

- 13. Nuisance Beaver Policy
- 14. Landscape Guide Great Lakes-St.Lawrence Region
- 15. Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scale
- 16. CFMI Operational Policy for Logging Damage Assessments
- 17. CFMI Slash Management Policy
- 18. CFMI HCVF Policy
- 19. CFMI Tree Marking Policy
- 20. CFMI Forest Operations Prescription Policy
- 21. Algoma Forest Standard Operating Procedures
- 22. CFMI Administrative Policies for Anti-Harassment and Gender Equality
- 23. CFMI Operational Policies for Silviculture Program

				Audit itinerary	
				•	
4.22 Audit date	4.23 Hou rs	4.24 MUs or members	4.25 Activities	4.26 Site detail	4.27 Site type
Jun 14, 2021	24	CFMI	Opening meeting, documenta tion review, interviews with CH staff and stakeholder interviews	Office; virtual opening meeting due to Covid CH protocols	□ Seed orchards □ Nursery □ Protected area □ Production forest area □ Workers' amenities □ Areas used by local communities and IP □ Water courses □ Forest roads □ Chemical storage sites □ HCVs □ Monitoring sites □ Office
Jun 15, 2021	24	CFMI, forestry workers	Harvest and silviculture, health and safety	Visited 6 blocks (1 planned, 2 harvest completed, 3 ongoing harvest). Interviewed 2 contractors (6 forestry workers, 2 supervisors, 2 CH staff); viewed illegal logging issue reported; viewed shelterwood harvest; new road construction and 6 water crossings (1 bridge); observed road maintenance; observed planned water crossing across existing & stable ford (see below) observed White Birch clearcut and reviewed silvicultural prescription with CH; viewed site of second ongoing selection cut in tolerant hardwoods and view tree marking (see pic below) also viewed new road construction & prep cut marking in Cedar shelterwood cut and site where contractor improved boat launch to public fishing lake (see pic below)	□ Seed orchards □ Nursery □ Protected area □ Production forest area □ Workers' amenities □ Areas used by local communities and IP □ Water courses □ Forest roads □ Chemical storage sites □ HCVs □ Monitoring sites □ Office

Jun 16, 2021	24	CFMI, forestry workers	harvest and silviculture, health and safety	Visited 4 blocks (2 ongoing harvest, 2 regeneration blocks, potential HCV; interviewed 2 contractors (10 forestry workers including loader operators, truckers, supervisor, gravel truck drivers, excavator operators and road grader); viewed ongoing harvest activities, gravel pit operations, log loading, decommissioned gravel pit, viewed recent 2 water crossings; viewed residual retention (see pic below), observed health & safety, 2018 regeneration, viewed old logging camp site protected from forest management operations, reviewed prescription for 2017 regeneration possible tending	□ Seed orchards □ Nursery □ Protected area □ Production forest area □ Workers' amenities □ Areas used by local communities and IP □ Water courses □ Forest roads □ Chemical storage sites □ HCVs □ Monitoring sites □ Office
Jun 17, 2021	24	CFMI staff	Document review follow up, stakeholder interviews, closing meeting	Office; virtual closing meeting	□ Seed orchards □ Nursery □ Protected area □ Production forest area □ Workers' amenities □ Areas used by local communities and IP □ Water courses □ Forest roads □ Chemical storage sites □ HCVs □ Monitoring sites □ Office

	Stakeholder consultation process						
4.28 First stakeholder consultation date for this audit	June 6, 2021						
4.29 Means of engagement	☑ Face to face meetings☑ Contacted by phone						
	⊠ Email, or letter						
	☐ Notice published in the national and/or local press						
	☐ Notice published on relevant websites						
	☐ Local radio announcements						
	☐ Local customary notice boards						
	☐ Social media broadcast						
4.30 Engaged stakeholder	☐ Economic interests						
groups	Social interests ■						
	⊠ Environmental interests						
	☐ FSC-accredited certification bodies active in the country						
	☐ National and state forest agencies						

$\hfill \Box$ Experts with expertise in controlled wood categories
☐ Research institutions and universities
$\hfill \square$ FSC regional offices, FSC network partners, registered standard development groups and NRA working groups in the region
□ Forest workers, contractors
□ Local communities, residents

		Stakeholder com	ment(s)		
4.31 Stakeholder group	4.32 Stakeholder description	4.33 Stakeholder's comment	4.34 Notified before audit?	4.35 Interviewed during this audit?	4.36 CB's follow up
Local communities, residents	Indigenous	Interested in FSC process			
Local communities, residents	Indigenous	Interested in FSC process; interested in participating in audit			Could not fit into his schedule; auditor agreed to confirm 2022 audit date with interested party

	Complaint(s) received\$							
4.37 Rece ived date	4.38 First rece ived by	4.39 Compl ainant	4.40 Complaint detail	4.41 Open/ Closed	4.42 Actions	4.43 Close date		
	СН	Social	Harvest contractor did not follow agreement with respect to protection along trail	Open	CH reviewed complaint and directed contractor to address, government in review, auditors observed area of complaint but were unable to interview complainant. Auditor follow up in SV2 to see if issue resolved.	Click or tap to enter a date.		

5. Corrective actions from previous audit

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit								
5.1 Finding No.	1.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021					
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed					
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	10.12.1					

5.7 Requirement

Operational procedures related to handling of chemicals, liquid and solid non-organic waste materials*, including fuel, oil, batteries and containers are in place and are implemented. At a minimum, the procedures address:

- 1. Collection, storage, and disposal of waste in an environmentally appropriate manner;
- Adherence to a waste recycling program, where it exists;
 Measures to prevent spills;
- 4. Emergency plans for cleanup and treatment of injuries following spills or other accidents;
- 5. Refueling constraints, including buffers around riparian zones* and water bodies*;
- 6. Removal of used materials, including machinery and equipment; and
- 7. Securing abandoned buildings owned by The Organization* on the Management Unit*.

5.8 Description of audit finding

Several elements of the SOP were in non-conformance; 1) When Fuelling; return nozzle to holding mechanism 2) Fuel tanks must meet applicable standards (i.e. ULC C142.13, or CGSB 43.146) and be properly labelled. (UN number, WHMIS, no smoking) Only one of 5 slip tanks had nozzles in a holding mechanism, and none had ULC C142.13, or CGSB 43.146 standard labels. One operator insisted that a holding mechanism and drip containment system be installed because the tank was mounted on his personal truck. The fuel that leaks from unsecured nozzles is an environmental, health and safety risk (slips and falls). There were no tanks observed during the field inspection that were properly labelled. This is a minor non-conformance because the fuel handling system was compliant with most requirements and there was no evidence of environmental, health or safety issues.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Overlapping Licensees have reviewed fuel tank requirements with associated Contractors regarding nozzles, holsters, stickers, certification, and spill kits during various start-up sessions in the spring of 2021.

- Over lapping Licensees will continue to conduct start-up sessions and safety audits of fuel tanks annually. Please refer to Evidence Package of Start-up Session Checklists.
- Prior to each Project commencement, Clergue will continue to conduct start-up sessions safety audits of fuel tanks for each silviculture operations using mechanical site preparation and slash management operations policies.
- Clergue conducted a safety audit of slash piling operations in MOU 518 in May, 2021 (pictures and Audit Form attached as Evidence).
- Clergue will annually review fuel tank requirements with Overlapping Licensees during start-up meetings.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Confirmed implementation at SV1, check for continued conformity each surveillance

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit					
5.1 Finding No.	2.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021		
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed		

5.5	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	1.6.2
Standard			

5.7 Requirement

A publicly available* dispute resolution process that can be adapted through culturally appropriate* engagement* is in place, including mechanisms to address disputes of substantial magnitude* that include provisions for ceasing operations.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The dispute resolution process contained in the evidence does not meet the requirements of this Indicator as they have not been adapted for the public or are culturally appropriate and they are not publicly available. The lack of a dispute resolution process has not hampered discussions with stakeholders or Indigenous communities and for that reason is graded as a minor non-conformance

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

A publicly available Dispute Resolution Policy has been developed and is placed on the Clergue Forest Management Inc. website at clergue.com

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Check for any disputes each surveillance audit

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit						
5.1 Finding No.	3.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed			
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	3.1.3			
5.7 Requirement						

5.7 Requirement

When there is disagreement about the legal* and/or customary rights* affected by management activities*, The Organization* attempts, through culturally appropriate* engagement*, to reach agreement on an interim scope of rights to be recognized and upheld*. This process is conducted in good faith*, documented and available at the time of audit.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The lack of persistent and sincere effort to follow up on identified issues/concerns related to forest management activities within this Indigenous community's traditional territory does not meet the intent of this Indicator. Based on evidence presented and interviews with some affected Indigenous communities, presently only 1 community is at issue and was not responded to in a timely manner. For this reason the non-conformance is graded a minor.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

A Customized Consultation Agreement (CCA) has been developed between MNRF and three Treaty 9 First Nations Communities, including the affected Community. Regular correspondence has been completed as part of the Annual Work Schedule Indigenous Consultation Process. Dialogue with the affected Community revealed no values affected by planned forest management activities.

CFMI will work actively with Missanabie Cree First Nation following their review of the AWS to determine reasonable protectionary measures for any identified values. A customizable AOC prescription has been included in the 2020-2030 Algoma FMP to allow for the protection of any values identified throughout the course of FMP implementation. CFMI is willing to enter into confidentiality agreements to protect sensitive values information and use it only as required to ensure values protection. Clergue Forest Management Inc. has been in regular dialogue with Treaty 9 Communities, including the affected Community regarding CCA Late Winter Moose Habitat and its susceptibility to Aerial Spray. Ongoing discussions are occurring to determine an appropriate reserve buffer for Late Winter Moose Habitat.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Ongoing verification each surveillance audit

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit						
5.1 Finding No.	4.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed			
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	3.2.5			

5.7 Requirement

Free, Prior and Informed Consent* is obtained prior to management activities* that affect the rights identified Indicator 3.1.4 through process that: 1. Engages the Indigenous Peoples* in the assessment of the economic, social and environmental forest management values* of the resource: 2. Documents an approach to identifying the goals and aspirations of affected rights holders related to management activities*; Includes mutually agreed* upon dispute resolution process: 4. Supports dialogue regarding the rights and responsibilities of Indigenous Peoples* to the resource; 5. Informs affected Indigenous Peoples* of their right to withhold consent or modify consent to the proposed management activities* to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources, lands and 6. Supports decision-making by affected Indigenous Peoples* that is free of coercion, manipulation

When Free, Prior and Informed Consent* has not been obtained, The Organization* demonstrates best efforts* to support a culturally appropriate* engagement* process with affected Indigenous Peoples* that is advancing in good faith* with the intent of reaching an agreement based on Free, Prior and Informed Consent*.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The CH has an Indigenous Policy that meets the requirements of this Indicator with the exception of a dispute resolution process. The evidence provided confirms the CH does not follow the Policy and, there is no evidence that the CH has developed the required mutually agreed dispute resolution process. The CH has met 3 of 6 of the required sub-Indicators but has not fully met 1, 3, 5. A non-conformance has been issued under 3.1.3 that pertains to sub-Indicator 1. This non-conformance is classed as a minor based on the evidence presented the CH has partially met the requirements of this Indicator.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

A separate Indigenous Relations Dispute Resolution Policy for Indigenous Communities has been developed by Clergue Forest Management Inc. and has been reviewed and approved by the Clergue Board of Directors. This Policy helps facilitate discussions with Indigenous Communities listed in Clergue Forest Management Inc. Indigenous Relations Policy.

• Clergue Forest Management Inc. also follows Section 8 – Dispute Resolution of the "Customized Consultation Agreement (CCA)" between NDMNRF and Chapleau Creek First Nation, Missanabie Cree First Nation, and Brunswick House First Nation. Evidence is attached.

- This Dispute Resolution Policy will be included with the existing Indigenous Relations Policy
 An Indigenous Relations Dispute Resolution Policy has been developed and will be followed during
- An Indigenous Relations Dispute Resolution Policy has been developed and will be followed during annual operations discussion regarding Indigenous values overlapped by forest management activities.
- CCA implementation with Chapleau Creek First Nation, Missanable Cree First Nation, and Brunswick House First Nation.
- 2021-22 AWS Values Review with Chapleau Creek First Nation, Missanabie Cree First Nation, and Brunswick House First Nation (Evidence Attached).
- 2021-22 AWS notification and follow-up to all Indigenous Communities listed in Clergue Forest Management Inc. Dispute Resolution Policy.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Ongoing verification each surveillance audit

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit						
5.1 Finding No.	5.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed			
5.5 National or CB FM standard - NFSS Standard		5.6 Clause	9.1.6			
5.7 Paguirement						

5.7 Requirement

The HCV assessment* report is updated every five years. Portions of the assessment are updated more frequently in response to changes in the status of species-at-risk* or when there are significant changes in the state of other HCVs* or HCV areas*.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The HCV report, Version 8, October 7, 2020 available on the CFMI website, has not been adequately updated to address changes in the status of species at risk on the Algoma Forest. It does not include recently listed species at risk (e.g., Evening Grosbeak, Yellow-banded Bumblebee) that are included in the 2020-2030 forest management plan.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

Created iNaturalist project to track observations of species and help assess occurrence on Algoma Forest.

Updated list of SAR on Algoma Forest – added red-headed woodpecker, evening grosbeak, and yellow-banded bumblebee.

Updated CRO-4 in 2020 FMP to include protection for nests of yellow-banded bumble bee (will be reflected published amendment) in next Updated **HCV** SARA status in report for eastern whip-poor-will **HCV** Updated ESA status in report for rusty blackbird Re-published v8 of **HCV CFMI** website report to CFMI will put forward a budget proposal for 2022-23 fiscal year to have the HCV report revamped

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Follow up with 2022 audit for updates to the HCV report

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit						
5.1 Finding No.	6.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed			
5.5 National or CB FM standard - NFSS Standard		5.6 Clause	6.7.2			
5.7 Requirement						

5.7 Requirement

The best management practices* identified in Indicator 6.7.1 are being implemented.

5.8 Description of audit finding

Best management practices for prevention of sedimentation of water bodies (#6 in Indicator 6.7.2) are not being consistently applied on roads managed by Boniferro Mill Works in the southern portion of the Algoma Forest. Several culverts the along the Murphy Road (MOU 663) had steep, unstable slopes with exposed mineral soil that were sources of sediment into the streams. Sedimentation was increased by grading practices on the crossing approaches, which resulted in berms on the edge of the road that directed runoff down the road and into the stream. The CFMI Water Crossing Handbook clearly states that "inlet and outlet ends of culverts must be stabilized with non-erodible material (e.g. rocks)". No rip-rap or seeding was used. Erosion control was generally lacking where an old road was being upgraded within an AOC (Jarvis Block, Block 808-9), with sediment-laden runoff going into the adjacent coolwater waterbody. At least two perched culverts and a poorly aligned culvert were also observed. A culvert removal at MOU 807 (Old Mill Bay) was experiencing erosion and sediment transport from exposed mineral soil on the roadway approaches due to lack of seeding, despite well-executed water bars and ditches. The May 2020 CFMI water crossing standards book clearly states that "all exposed soil must be seeded and/or stabilized immediately" and "Sediment control measures must be in place until site vegetation is re-established or exposed soil has been stabilized with rip-rap". This did not occur.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

The Jarvis Rd. surface has been gravelled and culverts are now properly rip-rapped. This will mitigate with sedimentation washing into waterbodies. Decommissioned crossings in Old Mill Bay Rd. area have started to revegetate with grasses. Old monitoring Mill Bay Ongoing of Rd. decommissioned crossings. Ongoing discussion of issues and scenarios in start-up and tailgate meetings with licensees and operators.

Extensive effort to hold a 'spring training' session with MNR to discuss matters such as culvert installations; to-date unsuccessful due to COVID-19 but will continue to pursue. Water crossings on Murphy Rd. will be removed and sites will be stabilized upon completion of operations.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Follow up in 2022 surveillance audit. Notable improvement in water crossing installations by this operator in 2021 audit.

Non-conformity/gap raised from previous audit							
5.1 Finding No.	7.	5.2 Due date	Oct 22, 2021				
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Closed				
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	6.1.1				

5.7 Requirement

Best available information* is used to identify and define the state and condition of regional- and landscape*scale* environmental values* within and, where potentially affected by management activities*, outside of the
Management
Unit*.

Consistent with the scale, intensity and risk (SIR*)of the operation, best available information* includes:

1. Forest* cover (maps and quantitative summaries);

2. Distributions of forest types*, age-classes* and patch sizes (as required by Indicator 6.1.3) (quantitative summaries);

3. Road* networks quantitative summaries); (maps and 4. features' Hydrologic (maps); including 5. Lake. wetland* classifications identification fish-bearing stream and water bodies* and quantitative summaries): (maps 6. Existing readily (quantitative carbon stores, where available information): ecosystem* 7. Percent protected area* classification of by unit: 8. Rare ecosystems* (maps and quantitative Identification of species at the edge of their natural ranges and outlier populations; and 10. Status of habitat* (known locations, trends, extent of area) for species-at-risk* that use forest habitats* and habitats* affected by forest management (quantitative summaries and range maps).

5.8 Description of audit finding

The best available information has not been used to identify and define the spatial distribution of species at risk or their habitat across the Algoma Forest. Without a knowledge of the abundance and location of SAR habitat, it is difficult to assess the effectiveness of management actions to protect SAR and their habitat as required under Criterion 6.4 or to maintain and enhance HCVs as per Criterion 9.3, or periodically monitor them (9.4). • SAR range maps were apparently used to develop SAR and HCV lists, but are not portrayed in the HCV report, 2020-2030 FMP, or CFMI SAR handbook. Such maps would at least indicate where on the management unit SAR occur, where personnel should be aware of their presence (and report if observed), and where management could potentially affect their habitat. • No maps or quantitative summaries of the habitat for forest-dependent SAR are presented in the HCV report or 2020-2030 FMP; use of FRI-based habitat models would constitute best available information. • Quantification of the 2020 habitat for indicator species was conducted for the 2020-2030 FMP as a result of an Issue Resolution process, but it did not include any SAR, nor did it SAR model habitat availability through time, although it is possible to do this using SFMM. OMNR formerly modelled wildlife habitat during FMP development, which could be considered "best available information" if done for SAR.

• The known locations, trends, extent of area of SAR habitat on the Algoma Forest is not identified in the HCV or planning documents.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

CFMI worked with a well-known local naturalist and college professor to develop an iNaturalist project that allows for on-demand data downloads of observation details of selected species (https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/algoma-forest). Intent is to develop local occurrence maps that could strengthen the HCV report and support specific discussions about species occurrences in particular areas during start-up meetings. Project has already confirmed the presence of red-headed woodpecker on the Algoma Forest which has to-date been reported as out-of-range.

• Open-source (e.g. Wikimedia Commons, eBird) range maps are being sourced for inclusion in the HCV

- CFMI has engaged a GIS consultant about developing an interactive web application that will allow people to view HCV occurrences (with obscured locations for especially sensitive values) based on information gathered through CFMI's iNaturalist project for the Algoma Forest, from any desktop webbrowser. The idea is that this could be used for operational planning as well as be made available to interested members of the public. The cost of developing and launching such a web app is reasonable and this item will be promoted for inclusion in CFMI's budget for the 2022-23 fiscal year.
- Locations and quantities of numerous SAR habitats are known on the Algoma Forest and are presented on FMP/AWS maps. Information is provided by MNR every year for planning purposes. Occurrences of discrete habitat features, such as nesting sites and dens, are identified regularly by MNR and CFMI and added to planning maps.
- Details such as range maps have intentionally not been included in materials such as operations handbooks; this stems from past FSC corrective action to simplify materials for operators to ensure that only the most critical information is conveyed (i.e. what a SAR/HCV looks like in the field and which species are especially protected) so that critical information is understood and not lost in an abundance of detail.

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Acceptable. Review status of updated HCV report at next audit.

Non-conformity/gap raised from this audit						
5.1 Finding No.	8.	5.2 Due date	Feb 2, 2022			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Open			
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	1.7.1			

5.7 Requirement

A policy is implemented that: 1. Includes a commitment not to offer or receive bribes of any description; 2. Meets or exceeds related legislation; and 3. Is publicly available* at no cost.

5.8 Description of audit finding

The CH does not have a publicly available commitment statement or policy related to anticorruption or bribes. Lack of such policy is a new NFSS requirement.

5.9 Corrective action taken by the auditee

5.10 CB's review to corrective actions

Click or tap here to enter text.

Non-conformity/gap raised from this audit						
5.1 Finding No.	9.	5.2 Due date	Feb 2, 2022			
5.3 Grading	Minor	5.4 Open/closed	Open			
5.5 Standard	National or CB FM standard - NFSS	5.6 Clause	10.10			

5.7 Requirement

The requirements to protect environmental values* are covered in Principle 6 and include specific measures related to development, maintenance and use of infrastructure* and silviculture*. If a certificate holder is in conformance with the Indicators* listed below, they will have met the requirements of Criterion 10.10: • Water resources: Indicators 6.3.1, 6.3.2, 6.7.1 to 6.7.6. • Soils: Indicators 6.3.1 to 6.3.7. • Species at risk*: 6.4.2 to 6.4.6. • Rare and threatened habitats & ecosystems values: 6.6.3 and 6.6.4. • Rare and threatened landscape values: 6.8.1 to 6.8.6.

5.8 Description of audit finding

A minor nonconformity was detected related to 6.7.2 (please, see details above). As per formal NOTE listed under criterion 10.10, non-conformance with indicator 6.7.2 means not satisfying the requirement of this criterion. Nevertheless, due to specific situation and formulation of this criterion – the Minor non-conformity was raised, even though at FSC criterion level.

5.9	9	Correc	tive a	ction	taken	by	the	audit	ee
-----	---	--------	--------	-------	-------	----	-----	-------	----

Click or tap here to enter text.

6. Observations \$

Clear and systematic presentation of the observations and considerations on which the certification decision is based at criterion **OR** indicator level, including findings of both conformities and nonconformities.

6.1 No.	6.2 Clause	6.3 Summary of findings
1.6.2	The Organization* shall comply with all applicable laws*, regulations and nationally- ratified* international treaties, conventions and agreements. (P1 V4)	One non-conformance issued in 2020 under 1.6.2 is still open. Closure date is October 22, 2021. The dispute resolution process is not publicly available and is not culturally appropriate for all audiences. Auditors noted good progress is being made on this non-conformance. A revised dispute resolution process is awaiting CH Board approval. An observation was issued in the 2021 audit under 1.3.1. Members of an Indigenous community began harvest operations on traditional territory on Crown land without government approval. A dispute between the government and the members is ongoing. Auditors were unable to visit the site, but the next audit should include this operation. The SFL license remains in good standing. Auditors found the 2019 Forest Management Plan meets all legislative and regulatory requirements. All Crown dues are paid. The CH has a procedure in place for the public and forestry workers to report instances of illegal logging and then it is reported to the government authorities. Auditors observed a noticeable improvement in fuel handling from the previous audit. The CH provided evidence (e.g. ski trail) that complaints are dealt with in a timely manner. Auditors found the CH Vision and Mission statement is posted and includes a commitment statement to the FSC principles and criteria.
2.3	The Organization* shall implement health and safety practices to protect workers* from occupational safety and health hazards. These practices shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of management activities*, meet or exceed the recommendations of the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Forestry Work. (C4.2 P&C V4)	The CH has a health and safety program in place. All contractors interviewed during the audit had their own health and safety program. Auditors observed safe practices by forestry workers during the audit. Records reviewed showed no lost-time injuries during the previous year.
3.1.3	When there is disagreement about the legal* and/or customary rights* affected by management activities*, The Organization* attempts, through culturally appropriate* engagement*, to reach agreement on an interim scope of rights to be recognized and upheld*. This process is conducted in good faith*, documented and available at the time of audit.	A minor non-conformance was issued in 2020 under this Indicator for a lack of persistent and sincere effort to follow up on identified issues/concerns related to forest management activities within a Indigenous community's traditional territory does not meet the intent of this Indicator. The closure date is October 22, 2021. This surveillance audit concluded significant efforts have been made to address this non-conformance. Auditors were impressed with the level of effort and documentation of communications and work towards consent agreements with several Indigenous communities.
3.2	3.2 The Organization* shall recognize and uphold* the legal* and customary rights* of Indigenous Peoples* to maintain control over management activities* within or related to the Management Unit* to the extent necessary to protect their rights, resources and lands and territories*. Delegation by Indigenous Peoples* of control over management activities* to third parties requires	A minor non-conformance was issued in 2020 under 3.2.5. The CH has an Indigenous Policy that meets the requirements of this Indicator except for a dispute resolution process. The evidence provided confirms the CH does not follow the Policy and, there is no evidence that the CH has developed the required mutually agreed dispute resolution process. The CH has met 3 of 6 of the required sub-Indicators but has not fully met 1, 3, 5. A non-conformance has been issued under 3.1.3 that pertains to sub-Indicator 1. See comments above under 3.1.3 and 1.6.2 regarding progress towards closing this non-conformance. Evidence reviewed during this audit show the CH has made significant efforts to engage with Indigenous communities with traditional territory on the Algoma Forest.

One block was removed from annual operations until a community could

Free, Prior and Informed Consent*. (C3.1 and 3.2 P&C V4)

confirm the location of values in the block. All Indigenous communities interviewed were satisfied with the level of engagement with the CH and felt their legal and customary rights were being upheld.

3.4 The Organization* shall recognize and uphold* the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous Peoples* as defined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) and ILO Convention 169 (1989). (C3.2 P&C V4, revised to comply with FSC-POL-30-401, ILO 169 and UNDRIP)

Evidence reviewed and interviews with Indigenous communities with traditional territory on the Algoma confirm the CH recognizes and upholds the rights, customs and culture of Indigenous peoples.

4.4 The Organization* shall implement additional activities, through engagement* with local communities*, that contribute to their social and economic development, proportionate to the scale*, intensity* and socioeconomic impact of its management activities*. (C4.4 P&C V4)

Auditors reviewed agreements and email correspondence confirming engagement and/or partnerships with several local community groups that use the Algoma Forest. The CH hires local forest contractors where possible. Interviews with forestry workers confirm the majority live in the surrounding communities. Refer to comments under 3.2 and 3.1.3 related to Indigenous peoples' engagement.

4.5 The Organization*, through engagement* with local communities*, shall take action to identify, avoid and mitigate significant negative social, environmental and economic impacts of its management activities* on affected communities. The action taken shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of those activities and negative impacts. (C4.4 P&C V4)

The compliance records reviewed for the audit period confirm the CH has an excellent compliance record. Auditors reviewed evidence that a scheduled harvest block, within an Indigenous communities' traditional territory, was removed voluntarily to allow for the community to review where values are. Sufficient documentation was provided to confirm measures are being taken to resolve a complaint from a local trail association that the harvest contractor violated an agreement that allowed harvesting within a reserve designed to protect the trail. Government is investigating from a compliance perspective.

5.2 The Organization* shall normally harvest products and services from the Management Unit* at or below a level which can be permanently sustained. (C5.6 V4)

The evidence shows the level of harvest is at 20% of the sustainable harvest level. All Indicators are in conformance.

6.1 The Organization* shall assess environmental values* in the Management Unit* and those values outside the Management Unit* potentially affected by management activities*. This assessment shall be undertaken with a level of detail. scale* and frequency that is proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of management activities*, and is sufficient for the purpose of deciding the necessary conservation* measures, and for detecting and monitoring possible negative impacts of those activities. (New)

A minor non-conformance was issued under 6.1.1 in the 2020 audit. The closure date is October 22nd, 2021. The best available information was not used to update HCVs or identify rare, threatened, or endangered species in the Algoma Forest. This surveillance audit noted significant progress has been made in obtaining the most recent and relevant science information and updates of HCVs has been done. Observations confirm wildlife and sensitive site values are being protected through reserves and best management practices. Forest structure, types and patch size distribution were incorporated in the forest management plan. Auditors observed this is being implemented successfully as required. All other Indicators are in conformance.

6.4 The Organization* shall protect rare species* and threatened species* and their habitats* in the Management Unit* through conservation zones*, protection areas*, connectivity* and/or (where necessary) other direct measures for their survival and viability. These measures shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of management activities* and to the conservation* status and ecological requirements of the rare*and threatened species*. The Organization*shall take into account the geographic range and ecological requirements of rare* and threatened species* beyond the boundary of the Management Unit*, when determining

Evidence reviewed and observations during the audit confirm identified rare, threatened and endangered species habitat is being protected through the implementation of the forest management plan prescriptions. Auditors found significant efforts have been made to improve the information on rare, threatened and endangered species that could be present in the Algoma Forest and to address the non-conformance issued under 6.1.1. There are no identified caribou on the Algoma Forest, however, the forest management plan includes an area of concern prescription for caribou calving sites as a precautionary measure. The 2021 Species at Risk handbook, used by forestry workers, has been revised to remove those species that are unlikely to be present on the Algoma Forest. The CH works closely with the local government to prevent illegal activities (i.e. trapping, hunting, fishing). All indicators are in conformance.

the measures to be taken inside the Management Unit*. (C6.2 P&C V4)

6.6 The Organization* shall effectively maintain the continued existence of naturally occurring native species* and genotypes*, and prevent losses of biological diversity*, especially through habitat* management in the Management Unit*. The Organization* shall demonstrate that effective measures are in place to manage and control hunting, fishing, trapping and collecting. (C6.2 and C6.3 P&C V4)

Auditors observed all planned harvest areas are being managed as planned in accordance with the forest management plan and regulations for residual, management of coarse woody debris and maintenance/protection of uncommon or unique ecological characteristics. Auditors observed signs of a variety of wildlife during the audit, confirming a variety of habitat is maintained on the landscape. All Indicators in conformance.

- 6.7.1 Best management practices* are in place that identify measures to protect water bodies*, riparian zones*, and water quality. At a minimum, the measures address the following:
 - 1. Buffer widths sufficient to protect water quality, aquatic and emergent vegetation and habitat* for fish, invertebrates, other aquatic species, and terrestrial species; 2. Machine-free zones that are not entered except where required for construction of crossings or other approved infrastructure* or restoration* of riparian functions or water bodies*;
 - Restriction of in-stream activities to avoid sensitive fisheries seasons;
 - 4. Prevention of negative changes in water quantity and quality including through maintaining stream shading sufficient to protect against deleterious changes in stream temperature;
 - 5. Minimizing disruption of natural drainage patterns, including when locating and constructing roads*, landings and skidways; 6. Prevention of sedimentation of water bodies*; and 7. Protection* of intermittent streams* and ephemeral streams*.
- 6.8.1 Based on the analyses undertaken for Indicators 6.1.3 and 6.1.4, targets are identified for the distribution of forest types* and age classes of forest types* that are intended to maintain, restore*, or enhance the condition of the forest* appropriate to the regional context. Targets may take anticipated impacts of climate change into account provided they are based on best available information*. Target age-class* distributions represent the full range of natural forest* ages such that old forest* classes are incorporated into the targets.
- 6.8.3 Based on the analyses undertaken for Indicators 6.1.3 and 6.1.4, targets are identified for the size distribution of forest patches to maintain, restore*, or enhance the condition of the forest* as appropriate to the regional context. The targets also take into account the needs of species-at-risk* that require large areas of contiguous habitat*.

A minor non-conformance was issued in 2020 under this Indicator as best management practices were not being employed to prevent sedimentation into water courses. Closure date is October 22, 2021. Auditors noted during this surveillance audit that good progress has been made to improve road grading and culvert installations related to this non-conformance. This Indicator was not part of the audit scope.

Auditors noted the forest management plan contains mandatory objectives and targets that address this Indicator. Observations in the field during the audit confirm the forest management plan is being implemented as planned. This Indicator is in conformance.

See comments in 6.8.1. This Indicator is in conformance.

- 7.6 The Organization* shall, proportionate to scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of management activities*, proactively and transparently engage* affected stakeholders* in its management planning and monitoring processes, shall engage* interested stakeholders* on request. (C4.4 P&C V4)
- 8.2 The Organization* shall monitor and evaluate the environmental and social impacts of the activities carried out in the Management Unit*, and changes in its environmental condition. (C8.2 P&C V4
- The HCV assessment* report is 9.1.6 updated every five years. Portions of the assessment are updated more frequently in response to changes in the status of species-at-risk* or when there are significant changes in the state of other HCVs* or HCV areas*.
- The Organization* shall demonstrate 9.4 that periodic monitoring is carried out to assess changes in the status of High Conservation Values*, and shall adapt its management strategies to ensure their effective protection*. The monitoring shall be proportionate to the scale, intensity and risk (SIR*) of management activities*, and shall include engagement* with affected stakeholders*, interested stakeholders* and experts*. (C9.4 P&C V4)
- 10.3 The Organization* shall only use alien species* when knowledge and/or experience have shown that any invasive impacts can be controlled and effective mitigation measures are in place. (C6.9 and C10.8

Operational procedures related to

10.12.1

handling of chemicals, liquid and solid non-organic waste materials*, including fuel, oil, batteries and containers are in place and are implemented. At a minimum, the procedures address: Collection, storage, and disposal of waste in an environmentally appropriate manner; Adherence to a waste recycling program, where it exists; 3. Measures to prevent spills; 4. Emergency plans for cleanup and treatment of injuries following spills or other accidents; Refueling constraints, including buffers around riparian and water bodies*: zones* Removal of used materials, 6. including machinery and equipment; and Securing

buildings owned by The Organization*

on the Management Unit*.

7.

It is a legal requirement to engage annually with stakeholders and Indigenous communities that may be affected by forest management activities. Auditors reviewed correspondence that confirms this is done and heard from stakeholders groups that the CH encourages their participation in monitoring. Auditors found the CH responds promptly and works with all parties to resolve any complaints or issues. Auditors observed good progress is being made on the non-conformance issued under 1.6.1 related to the publicly available complaints process. All Indicators in conformance.

The CH has a robust compliance monitoring program that is audited by the government. During the audit period 52 inspections were completed to ensure compliance with the forest management plan. The CH reports annually on the impacts of forest management activities. Updates to wildlife information and species at risk are provided annually by the government and the CH also checks several wildlife information (e.g. inaturalist) websites for any changes in wildlife on the Algoma Forest. All Indicators are in conformance.

A minor non-conformance was issued in 2020 audit to update the rare, threatened, and endangered species list in the HCV report. The closure date is October 22, 2021. Auditors noted during this surveillance audit the HCV report has been updated on the status of species at risk on the Algoma Forest. Good progress has been made on this non-conformance. This Indicator was not audited.

See comments in 9.1.6 regarding updating the HCV report. During the audit period the CH provided evidence that periodic monitoring is carried out although overall responsibility for monitoring is the responsibility of the government. Audit interviews with affected Indigenous communities did not provide a clear answer as to whether they have been engaged in HCV identification or monitoring. An observation is provided for the next audit to follow up on this Indicator. The forest management plan accommodates changes or additions to values. All Indicators are in conformance.

The CH does not use alien species on the FMU. Auditors found forest workers are trained to identify and report invasive species found on the Algoma Forest. Evidence confirms the CH works with scientific agencies responsible for pest management. All Indicators are in conformance.

A minor non-conformance issued in 2020 audit identified forest workers not following Standard Operating Procedures for safe handling of fuel. The closure date is October 22,2021. Auditors observed no instances of unsafe fuel handling during this surveillance audit.

abandoned

7. Certification decision

Certification decision			
8.5 Difficulties identified during the evaluation			
8.6 Conditions (corrections of minor non-conformities) or pre-conditions (corrections of major non-conformities) associated with the certification decision	Seven non-conformances from the re-certification audit were closed by the October 22, 2021 deadline, two others need to be closed by February 2, 2022.		
8.7 Auditor recommendation for the certificate holder's	Based on the results of the audit continued certification is recommended		

management and performar		,
8.8 decision	Cer	tification

Maintain

8.9 Decision detail

Bureau Veritas Certification has determined that he FSC FM certificate of Clergue Forest Management Inc. Is to be maintained. There are no open Major non-conformities. Two minor non-conformities shall be closed by 2

February 2022.

8.10 Decision date

Dec 16, 2021

8.11 Decision making

entity

FSC FM HUB of Bureau Veritas Certification

8. Annex A —Certification Body's Checklist or Appendix Note: flexible for free insert and editing, not consumed by database.				