

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS REPORT

Year in review

Feature Articles :
Fire Resilience & Awareness



Kyody Photo

Forest and Environmental Policy and SFI Principles

This Forest and Environmental Policy applies to the scope of the environmental management system for the Woodlands Division and the principals of the SFI Forest Management and Fibre Sourcing Standards.

We commit:

To conduct activities in a manner that protects the **health and safety** of our employees and the public.

To practice **sustainable forestry** to meet the needs of the present while promoting 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 for the provision of ecosystem services such as the conservation of soil, air and water quality and quantity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation and aesthetics.

To provide for regeneration after harvest, maintain the health and productive capacity of the forestland base, and to protect and maintain long-term soil health and productivity. In addition, to protect forests from economically, environmentally and socially undesirable impacts of wildfire, pests, diseases, invasive species, and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term **forest health and productivity**.

To protect and maintain the water quality and quantity of water bodies and riparian areas, and to conform with forestry best management practices to **protect water** quality, to meet the needs of both human communities and ecological systems.

To manage forests in ways that **protect and promote biological diversity**, including animal and plant species, wildlife habitats, ecologically and culturally important species, threatened and endangered species and native forest cover types at multiple scales.

To **prevent pollution** and protect key forest resources.

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

To manage lands and **special sites** that are geologically or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

To meet or exceed applicable federal, provincial and local forestry and related environmental **laws, statutes and regulations**.

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

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

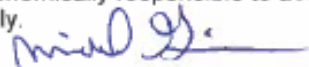
To set appropriate environmental **objectives and targets**, develop action plans to meet them, monitor progress and regularly review and update them.

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry on all lands through **community involvement**, socially responsible practices, and through recognition and respect of **Indigenous Peoples' rights** and traditional forest-related knowledge.

To broaden the understanding of forest certification to the Forest Management and Fibre Sourcing Standards by documenting certification audits and making the findings **publicly available**.

To **continually improve** the practice of forest management, and our environmental management system regularly. And to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

To use and promote sustainable forestry across a diversity of ownership and management types that is both scientifically credible and socially, environmentally, and economically responsible to **avoid sourcing from controversial sources** both domestically and internationally.



John MacLellan
Woodlands Manager

Michel Girard
Vice President & General Manager

Message from John MacLellan, Woodlands Manager

2023 at Corner Brook 's Woodlands saw the introduction of new logging firms, truck owners, and Equipment Operators. This growth is a positive sign of Kruger's commitment to Corner Brook Pulp and Paper 's continued operations and vital role this enterprise plays in Newfoundland and Labrador's forest community.

As you will read and see in this of 2023 Environment Report, all our leaders, employees, and support personal are actively engaged in the achievements reported here.

Congratulations and Well Done to Everyone involved!

John MacLellan



Lynx Pond operating area, District 9

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd & Sustainable Forest Management

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited (CBPPL) is committed to sustainable forest management by incorporating social, environmental, and economic values in the sustainable development of Newfoundland's forests. While a primary objective of our forest management plan is to provide a sustainable supply of high-quality raw material to the mill at a competitive cost, CBPPL Woodlands recognizes that forests offer a multitude of economic, environmental, and social values and benefits. The Company is committed to managing the forests under its stewardship in a sustainable manner to ensure that a full range of forest values and benefits are respected. Regulatory agencies and CBPPL have incorporated public consultations in the forest management planning process since the 1980s, thus developing a positive relationship between Government, CBPPL, and the Community. Public involvement in the planning process benefits present as well as future generations. CBPPL woodlands operating plans are produced every 5 years by management district. As well, a Sustainable Forest Management plan is produced annually to report on various programs.

CBPPL Woodlands' Environmental Management System (EMS) is the vehicle that ensures fulfillment of Sustainable Forest Management. CBPPL's EMS is a registrant (since 2001) to the ISO 14001 Standard, a standard that incorporates environmental aspects and continual improvement in all forest operations. The company's EMS applies to all Woodlands operations which include the company's planning, road construction and maintenance, harvesting, transportation of fibre, silviculture, and support services. Documented procedures and best management practices of the Company's EMS satisfies all of the requirements of the ISO 14001® and SFI® 2022 Forest Management, and Fibre Sourcing Standard(s). Rigorous and regular independent third-party audits are involved in certification to these standards.

The Defined Forest Area (DFA) for this SFM Plan includes all forested land on insular (island portion) Newfoundland and Labrador for which CBPPL has management responsibility. This does not include transmission lines that cross CBPPL limits. These timber limits span from the Codroy Valley on the southwest corner of the island, to Cat Arm on the Northern Peninsula, and east to Gander in central Newfoundland, and are contained within provincial Forest Management District's 5, 6, 9, 10, 14, 15, and 16.

CBPPL manages approximately 1.36 million hectares of Crown land on the Island of Newfoundland. The provincial government has responsibility to oversee various activities relating to forest resources on Crown lands. On lands managed by the CBPPL Woodlands Department the Company is responsible for: preparing management plans; constructing and maintaining forest access roads; harvesting timber; and silviculture.

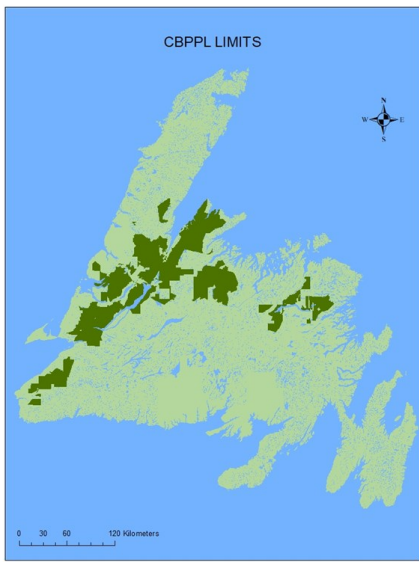
Forest Types

Of the almost 1.36 million hectares of total land area on the DFA, only 715,535 hectares are productive forest. The remainder of the land is bog, barren, water, and scrub land.

The forests of the DFA form the most eastern part of the Boreal Forest Region of North America. The forests are made up of trees that are relatively small, primarily coniferous trees intermixed with hardwoods. The variety of species is quite limited. Repeated fires have established black spruce as a characteristic species across much of Central Newfoundland. Elsewhere, the forests are dominated by the presence of balsam fir.

The forests of the west coast are predominately balsam fir (with minor components of white spruce and white birch) which prefer moist, well-drained soils and can attain heights of 10-14 meters at 70-100 years on the best sites. Black spruce has a very high tolerance for unfavourable conditions, and is thus common on very wet and dry sites. Black spruce grows well on fertile sites, but is a poor competitor among faster growing hardwoods. Black spruce is found primarily in the central plateau of Newfoundland where forest fires are common. White spruce may be found on more favourable sites.

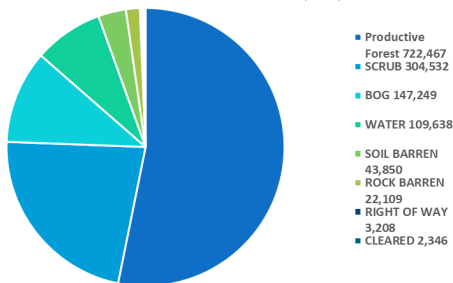
Hardwoods have not formed a major component of forest cover types in this Province. However, white birch and trembling aspen are significant components of mixed-wood and hardwood stands on better forest sites throughout the island, especially the deep river valleys of the Western Long Range Mountains, and the Humber River and Beothuk Lake watersheds. Hardwoods may reach heights of 22 meters at 80 years on moist, fertile sites.



The island portion of Newfoundland and Labrador. CBPPL Defined Forest Area (DFA) in dark green.



Total 2022 DFA: 1,358,643



Land classes present on the DFA

On Track

Environmental and Sustainable Forest Management Systems



External auditor on Major's Contracting Ltd. harvesting operation in Upper Humber, District 16. Interviewing a truck driver.

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited, Woodlands Department maintains its' commitment to SFM by upholding the standards to three certifications within our woodlands operations; ISO 14001 Environmental Management Standard; Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Forest Management Standard; SFI® Fibre Sourcing Standard.

During the period of May 29 to June 7, 2023, CBPPL completed a recertification audit to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) 2022 Forest Management (FM) and 2022 Fibre Sourcing (FS) Standards and a recertification audit to ISO 14001.

The registration cycle is over five years with surveillance audits conducted annually. The audit assessed active and/or completed harvest operations through interviews with the company staff and contractors. The audit also assessed the SFI documentation and records at the company's office including stakeholder and Indigenous communication.

The SFI program third-party audit was undertaken by Intertek. Intertek is an independent third-party registrar that is accredited by the ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) Standard ensuring the integrity and credibility of the audit process.

Results In 2023

Two auditors, from Intertek, conducted an on site recertification audit to ISO and SFI certification standards. Although there were minor non conformities, we are happy to report that CBPPL Woodlands maintain certification to all standards.

The minor nonconformances reported from audit:



Standard	Performance Measure and Indicator	Finding
SFI	9.1.1 Based on best scientific information, Certified Organizations shall identify climate change risks and prioritize them based on the likelihood, nature, severity of their expected impact to their forest lands or forest tenures.	Climate change risks have been identified, but have not been prioritized based on likelihood, nature and severity.
SFI	9.1.2 Certified Organizations shall develop an adaptation plan to address priority climate change risks.	Several initiatives have been implemented to reduce climate change risk, but no formal adaptation plan has been developed to address each priority climate risk identified at 9.1.1
SFI	9.1.3 Certified Organizations shall document how their adaptation plan objectives and strategies fit within broader regional climate adaption strategies and plans, where they exist.	A regional climate adaptation plan has been developed for the Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Sector. However, the company has not yet documented how its own adaptation plan fits within the regional action plan.
SFI	11.2.1 Written policy demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, gender equality, diversity inclusion, 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.	Health and safety shortcomings were noted among truck driver during the field tour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One truck driver was observed beside his trailer and securing his load while the wood was still being loaded. That same truck driver did not wear a hard hat while securing his load. • One truck driver did not have some of the mandatory safety equipment onboard his truck: fuel plug missing, first aid kit missing, fire extinguisher empty.
ISO 2015	6.1.2 The organization shall determine those aspects that have or can have a significant environmental impact, i.e. significant environmental aspects, by using established criteria.	The impact of the company's activities on fire (forest or machine fire) have not been evaluated as part of the environmental aspect evaluation. Also, climate change has been evaluated, but not classified as a significant aspect, while several programs are implemented to address it, suggesting it represent a significant aspect.



Lloyd Budgell with his last delivery of wood to Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited

After 42.5 years delivering wood to CBPPL, on Friday January 27, 2023 Lloyd Budgell delivered his last load and officially retired. Lloyd started working in the woods along side his father in his early teens at the woods camp on Burnt Berry Road. There he was kept busy fueling trucks, doing mechanic work and whatever else he could get his hands on. In 1980 Lloyd's dad ran 14 wood trucks for George Warr Ltd., who was under contract to supply wood to CBPPL (then Bowaters). Through this contract, Lloyd got himself into the drivers seat at only 17 years old, hauling 4 foot and later 8 foot wood. Mr. Budgell has said that over the years delivering wood to CBPPL, he has made "a good living and can't ask for no better from the supervisors". With retirement Lloyd is looking forward to doing things on his own time and spending more time with his wife Suzanne. Congratulations Lloyd! We wish you good health and happiness in your retirement.

Qualified Logging Professional Training (QLP)

As part of our commitment to SFI, in 2023 Woodlands continued QLP Training. The full day course covers topics including Environmental Awareness, provincial protection legislation, species at risk, and emergency response training, to name a few.



Reducing Green House Gas emissions of forest products transportation in Newfoundland and Labrador

In 2023, CBPPL pushed for a shift from legacy cross-pile trailers to shot-gun load trailers. This has allowed for greater flexibility of movement of round wood lengths between sites as well as between companies in a system called backhauling. Increased backhauling reduces empty truck miles. Travelling without freight is not only less productive but means the additional GHG emissions are produced by requiring more driving time to deliver a product. By replacing empty trucks with trucks carrying a payload it is reducing the overall GHG emissions associated with product delivery.

Also in 2023, CBPPL began a pilot project following recommendations from FP Innovation (FP Innovation is a private not-for-profit organization specializing in solutions to support Canada's forest sector competitiveness). The pilot program involves including changes to the allowable gross vehicle weight (AGVW) for two truck configurations on NL highways. The pilot program configurations included an 8-axle B-train trailers going to an AGVW of 65 500 kg (from 62 500kg) and a tandem drive tractor with a quad axle semi-trailer going to an AGVW of 57 500 kg (from 55 500kg). The results of these changes provide a 4% lower GHG emissions and 6% fewer log truck trips required to haul a given volume, the reduction in GHG emissions equates to the removal of more than 135 passenger vehicles from the road per year.

Once fully implemented, the change in allowable gross vehicle weight (AGVW) for the two truck configurations is expected to improve forest sector efficiency. The change will also reduce impacts on public road infrastructure and lower GHG emissions. This initiative promotes road user safety and also addresses the growing issue of a growing shortage of professional truck drivers.

This pilot program is a positive step forward by reducing the environmental impact of the forest industry in Newfoundland and Labrador. The success of this pilot program could serve as a model for other regions and industries striving to meet GHG emission reduction targets.



Fire Resilience and Awareness

Fire as a destructive force can rapidly consume large amounts of biomass and cause negative impacts such as:

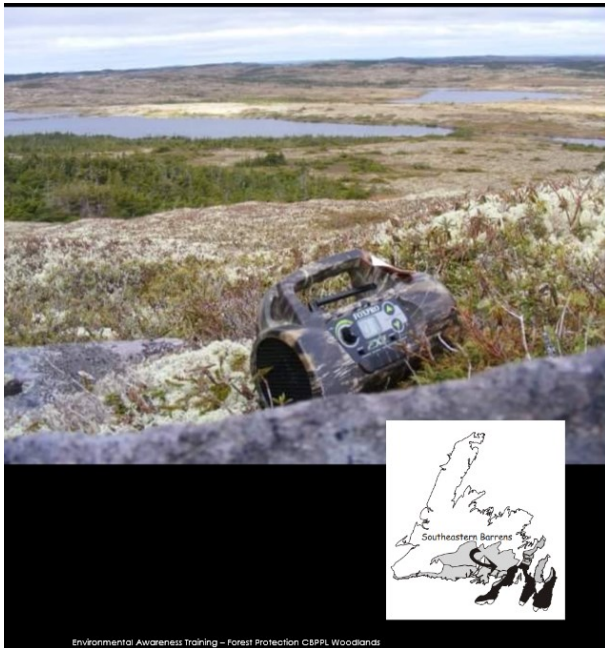
- ▶ Carbon emissions
- ▶ Air pollution & poor air quality
- ▶ Human health and safety concerns
- ▶ Human and wildlife displacement
- ▶ Biodiversity loss
- ▶ Forestry and recreation disruptions
- ▶ Post-fire soil erosion and water runoff issues
- ▶ Groundwater management problems

Due to increasing fire size, frequency, and susceptibility to insect outbreaks and drought driven mortality, forest biodiversity and composition is changing rapidly. Changes in vegetation structure alter important aspects of fire regimes (e.g., magnitude, frequency, seasonality), and these changes affect the management of biodiversity, groundwater management, forestry, recreation, as well as human safety. Atypically large patches of high-severity fire can hinder the ability of an ecosystem to recover, potentially undermining conservation of native biodiversity by long-term or permanent loss of native vegetation, expansion of non-native, invasive species, and long-term or permanent loss of essential habitat for native fauna.

Environmental Awareness Training – Forest Protection CBPPL Woodlands



A part of employee and contractor Environmental Awareness Training, is training that covers fire resilience and emergency response. With each forest fire season in the province, all harvesting contractors are required to have a operating permit, from the Provincial Government, that require forest protection equipment on site. CBPPL requires all machines to be cleaned before going into fire season. Welding onsite requires a hot work permit completed so that the hazards are controlled. Field visits are performed by CBPPL woodlands staff as well as forestry officials to ensure legal compliance and to offer support during the fire season. During this time, employee awareness of fire risk is regularly discussed at tool box meetings and field chats.



Historical example of destructive forest fire on the Island of Newfoundland:

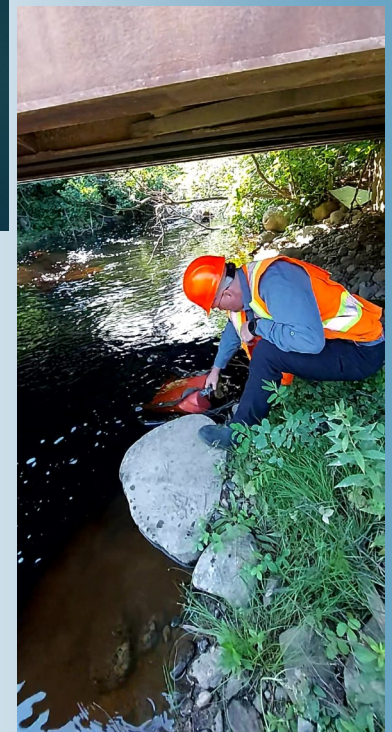
▶ Southeastern Barrens subregion

- ▶ The Southeastern Barrens subregion were once covered by forest, except on some high ridges and coastal headlands. Disastrous fires came with the railway in the 19th century and led to a general reduction of tree seeds by fire, thinness of the soil layer, and climatic conditions (strong winds, lack of protective snow cover, and frequent fog) allowed time for competitive dwarf shrub species to invade and dominate the burnt-over areas. As a result, much of this subregion, and much of the Maritime Barrens ecoregion as a whole, is today characterized by barrens.

Environmental Awareness Training – Forest Protection CBPPL Woodlands

QUICK FACT:

Did you know it's illegal to be moving and smoking in the forest during fire season?



Jeff Decker filling up a back tank. As per Provincial permit requirements all operations must have fire fighting equipment.

- ▶ as a constructive force fire is responsible for maintaining the health and perpetuity of certain fire-dependent ecosystems such as the central Newfoundland part of the Island. Considering the unique ecological roles of fire in mediating and regulating ecosystems, fire should be incorporated as an integral component of ecosystems and management.

- ▶ However, the effects of fire on an ecosystem depend on the fire regime, vegetation type, climate, physical environments, and the scale of time and space of assessment.



Environmental Awareness Training – Forest Protection CBPPL Woodlands

Community Involvement



Scouts Canada Tree Plant – Blow Me Down Cross County Ski Club Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Woodlands regularly help Scouts, Cubs, and Beavers earn their tree planting badge. CBPPL Woodlands helped out again this year with the 54th Corner Brook Beavers & Cubs group. The woodlands department found a planting location, showed the group how to plant, and check their trees. After the tree planting, CBPPL Woodlands gave out hot chocolate as the group learned about safe pocket knife handling.



CBPPL granted a donation of property use to the Western Environmental Centre towards their Community Greenhouse Project. This project provides access to community food infrastructure and increases the sustainability of the local food system. A green house geo was build on CBPPL property in the downtown core in 2023 and will be ready for planting spring 2024. It is a lovely addition to this area of town, and located behind the Centre for Research and Innovation in which CBPPL helped create and open in 2022 as part of a collaboration with Memorial University's Grenfell Campus and the College of the North Atlantic, and three levels of government.



Edible Mushroom Hikes - Mushroom gathering hikes are becoming increasingly popular among the local community environmental groups. Mushroom walks have taken place in various areas across CBPPL limits as an increased interest in this type of forging has been observed. Resource roads found throughout the province have given easy access to prime mushroom areas, some of which are on CBPPL managed lands.



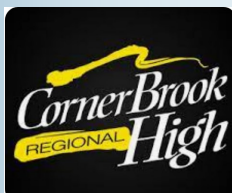
Corner Brook Winter Carnival
Since 2019 Woodlands staff have enjoyed taking in a winter carnival breakfast in support of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Off-site Presentations -Throughout the year various educational institutes contacted the Woodlands department requesting presentations.

Topics during these presentations have included everything from on the importance of forestry in Canada, the role of the boreal in forest products and ecosystem services, forest harvest-related terms, landscape fragmentation, the difference between natural disturbance and harvesting, Forest certifications locally and world wide, and the connections within the industry in the province Newfoundland.

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper, which manages ~1.36 million hectares of timber resources on the Island has a lot of operational knowledge to bring to the conversation.

CBPPL Staff gave four presentations at Corner Brook Regional High School. Staff visited the College of the North Atlantic second year forestry students to talk about forest certifications and forest management. The woodlands department also had a guest lecture at Grenfell Campus, Memorial University to the Environmental Science class.

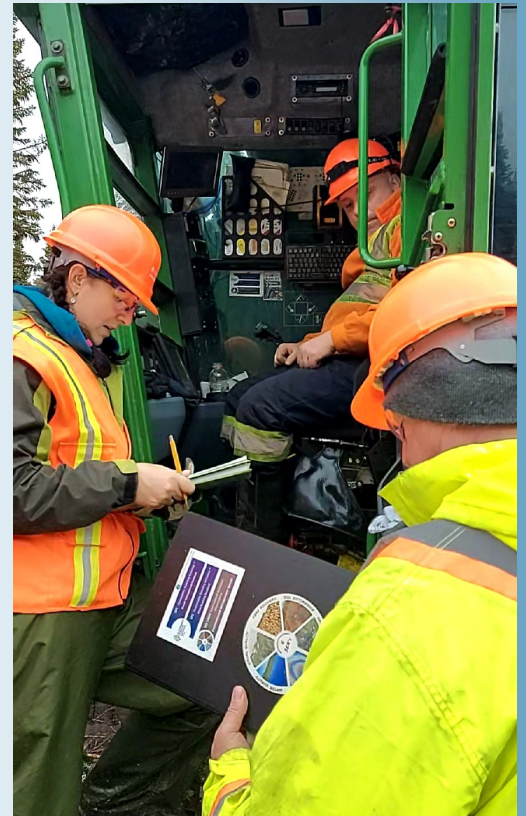


Measuring Environmental Compliance

CBPPL maintains a record of environmental performance through regular audits and inspections. During these inspections staff highlight positive performance but also identifies opportunities to improve. These processes help us continually enhance forest management practices and retain certification to environmental and sustainable forest management standards.

Internal and external annual audits are CBPPL's opportunity to show auditors how environmental requirements are met, and they determine if we have achieved our goals (see *On Track* pages 4-5). Federal and provincial government departments also monitor CBPPL operations for compliance with government regulations. External inspection results are reported to the Company and corrective action are put in place.

CBPPL Woodlands conducts regular environmental inspections on all aspects of forest operations including harvesting, road construction, and scarification.



SAFETY ALERT

Highlight on a Woodlands Hazard

Chain shot is a hazard on all logging operations. It can cause serious injury or death to the machine operator, ground personnel and bystanders. Chain shot occurs when the chain breaks within the harvesting head and ejects a piece or pieces of chain at high velocity (similar to the speed of a bullet).

Major Chain Shot Rules

1. Ensure all chain catchers and chain shot guards are in place and in good condition
2. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations for the operation & maintenance of saw chain based on cutting systems to minimize risk of cutting system failure.
3. **Never engage in a cut whereby the operator, ground personnel, and or bystanders are located in the shot cone zone.** Always perform cuts as close to the ground as possible.
4. Inform all crew and bystanders/visitors of the dangers of chain shot through site inductions and toolbox meetings
5. 19 mm or thicker polycarbonate front windshields on all harvesters and processors.



Emergency Response Tests

Operations on Corner Brook Pulp and Papers' land base regularly take part in Emergency Response Tests.

These tests are carried out to help personal be prepared for an emergency should one occur. Practicing dealing with emergencies promote confident and capable responses as well as regular maintenance of emergency response equipment.

Some of the tests that are scheduled throughout the year include:

Health & Safety

- Medical AED
- Medical first Aid
- Man Over Board

Environmental

- Fuel/Oil spill
- Evacuation Due to Forest Fire
- Sedimentation

Contractors also use these tests for proof for CORE certification requirements and discounts on insurance premiums.



Rupture Seal Environmental emergency response test with water in a bucket on Nobles Resources Inc. operations.



Trevor Green from Springdale Forest Resources sets up scenario for medical ERT test.

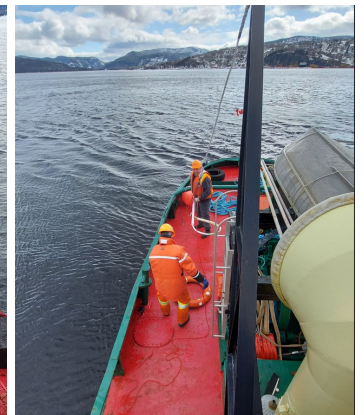
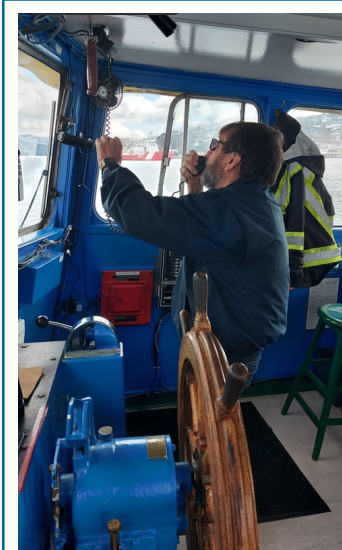


Environmental ERT sedimentation on Majors Logging Ltd. Roads operation



North West Forest Resources medical emergency run through.

Pathways employees during a Emergency Response test



Indian Lake Tug crew performing man over board test using the Williamson Turn.

Sustainable Forestry Initiative –SFI 2022 Standards

Highlight on species:

40% Spruce (Black Spruce & White Spruce)
60% Balsam Fir

Supply = 62% Round wood
38% purchased chips

SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard

Objective 2 - Forest Health and Productivity

To ensure long-term forest productivity, forest health and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, afforestation, deploying integrated pest management strategies, minimized chemical use, soil conservation, and protecting forests from damaging agents.

Performance Measure 2.1 Program Participants shall promptly reforest after final harvest.

As part of CBPPL Sustainable Forest Management, and the SFI objective requirements: all harvested areas must return to a forest stand. **We target to have a minimum of 97% of areas sufficiently stocked after harvest.** CBPPL reports on this annually through our Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) Plan.

Field surveys are scheduled on all harvested areas to determine if natural regeneration was successful or if some scale of planting is required. During field surveys, the document: Regeneration Stocking Standards and Regeneration Assessment Procedures for Newfoundland and Labrador (1997 version) is used. Chapter 3 – Interpretation of regeneration assessment state:

Stocking in excess of 70% is adequate.
Stocking 50% to 70%. Gap planting.
Stocking of 50% or less. Gap planting is the preferred approach to stocking enhancement, or the manager can carry out conventional reforestation activities, including site preparation and planting.

Forest Management - Planting

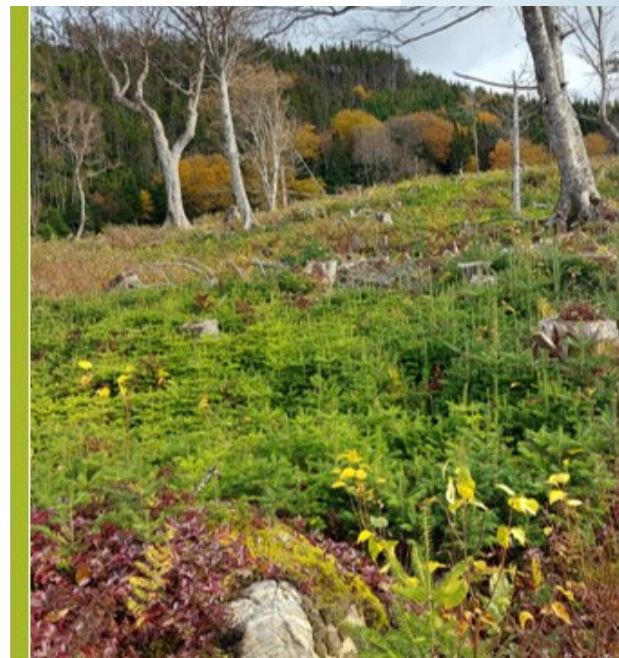


- Plant 2.1 million trees annually



Forest and Environment

- CBPPL Woodlands is committed to responsible management of the forest, to ensure environmental and forest sustainability.



**NATURAL
REGENERATION
WEST COAST NL**



Summer Student Monica placing bird



Graham Noble



John Bowers with his Good Catch shirt on. John continuously has his Take 5s, a key piece in the company's safety program, filled out.

Birds Canada—Newfoundland Breeding Bird Atlas Newfoundland and Labrador

In 2021 CBPPL was contacted by representatives from Birds Canada seeking to partner with the company to apply for funding through SFI Community Grants. As CBPPL Woodlands is certified to two SFI Standards (Forest Management and Fibre Sourcing) we are able to support initiatives such as the NL Breeding Bird Atlas through funding partnerships. With the support of CBPPL, Birds Canada was successful in obtaining a grant from Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard (SFI) to help fund the project.

In 2023 the partnership continued with CBPPL woodlands staff placing 30 recorders in the field and supplying forestry road maps to help public volunteers to complete bird surveys. This year recorders were placed in District 15 in Pynns Brook area and District 14 in camp 180 and Pasture Road area.

This project will map the distribution and relative abundance of bird species breeding on the island of Newfoundland. The atlas will provide an invaluable tool for wildlife conservation, education and research in the province. This Breeding Bird Atlas for Newfoundland and Labrador will be the first for the province.

Recorders are placed in the field in June and retrieved later in the year.

For more information visit the Birds Canada website www.birdscanada.org
Or the Newfoundland Breeding Bird Atlas website www.nf.birdatlas.ca

Outstanding Performances Environmental and Health and Safety Good Catch



The employees that work in the woodlands across our forest land base here at Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited continue to prove their commitment to sustainable forestry and a safe work site. Here are some examples that were documented in 2023:

Safety Good Catches

Feller Buncher operator Shawn Nichols found a sinkhole while harvesting. He notified his supervisor and buffer the area with ribbon, to keep other workers away from the danger zone. He then piled bunched wood away from the area so that processors and forwarders didn't have to go near the sinkhole. Good Catch!!

Graham Noble and Jeffrey Loder were trucking from Logger School Road. When they arrived at the trim ramps Jeffrey mentioned to Graham that he was hearing an air leak. Graham had a quick look and was unable to see or hear anything obvious, but decided to tell Jeffrey to stop at the old weigh scale location where Graham could have a better look when parked on pavement.

At the old weigh scale site Graham discovered a crack in an air line going to the brake maxi chamber. Graham ordered parts from Corner Brook and had them delivered and fixed the problem before proceeding.

While driving down the hill towards Massey Drive somebody called Graham on Channel 1 KM channel and told him there was an overturned vehicle out in the east-bound lane.

Graham and Jeff both had to brake hard to stop their loaded wood trucks at the accident scene. Upon stopping the trucks Graham could smell the brakes burning as a result of the intense braking.

The question asked is "had the air line not been fixed on Jeffrey's truck would there have been sufficient braking to stop that loaded truck on one of the most aggressive hills on the Island"?



Truck Maintenance Champions

Woodlands has been conducting an inspection of its owner/operator wood trucks and trailers since 2002. Dump trucks working on road construction operations were included in the inspections in 2015. In 2017, Woodlands decided to formally recognize truck maintenance champions who had demonstrated different levels of achievement. The results for 2023 are:

Gold - Truckers with zero deficiencies and no missed inspections (11 in total):

Graham Noble; Harvey Lush; John Bowers;

Truckers with no deficiencies:

Leon Burt; Johnny Dinney; Darrin Noble; Jake Toms; Dean Budgell; Lenny Gillam; Rick Samms

Silver - Truckers with one deficiency across inspections:
Rodney Langdon

Bronze - Truckers with Two deficiencies across inspections:
Rick Burden; Derek Mitchell

Congratulations to these truckers for their exceptional efforts in ensuring their trucks are in good working order, for their own safety and for the safety of others they meet on their travels.



Chuck Harding knows it is important to protect the environment. When fueling a truck, he never leaves the fuel nozzle unattended, and never jams the trigger. This prevents fuel spill accidents around the fuel pumps.



Rick Burden knows his job is important and so is his health and safety. Rick continuously wears his PPE when in the mill yard.



Gros Morne National Park Partnership

Parks Canada staff contacted CBPPL to request permission to collect cones from one of our active harvest sites in the early fall of 2023. Lovells Logging, who were harvesting in Logger School Road area, provided a safe work area for the Parks staff and continued to stay in contact with them during the cone collection.

Parks Canada is continuing their forest restoration work in Gros Morne National Park. Corner Brook Pulp and Paper woodlands forest area was identified as a location for seed harvest because of the southern position from the park; these trees may be better equipped to handle potential climate changes over the next growing cycle. A total of 120 bags were collected. The cones will be taken to Wooddale provincial tree nursery to grow ~100,000 fir seedlings to be used for forest restoration in Gros Morne National Park during the summer of 2025.



College of the North Atlantic Forestry Technician Program



Gull Pond winter operating area with Class of 2023 CNA Forestry Technician students.

Lewis Hills, a part of the Appalachian Mountain Range, in the background

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited (CBPPL) and Northwest Forest Resources Limited hosted the 2nd year Forest Resources Technician class site visit and tour of an active winter harvest operation in Camp 184/Gull Pond Road area.

This tour is a curriculum activity in the Forest Harvesting II course of their program. As part of this course, students study logging systems and machine configurations with an emphasis on productivity, environmental performance, and safety. Students were exposed to harvesting equipment and given the opportunity to interview operators and supervisory staff on the forest operations.

In their future roles as forest technicians, some graduates may be employed in planning or supervising such operations. To this end, it is important that they get exposure while training at CNA. The students in the photo above graduated in Spring 2023.

CBPPL is longstanding supporter of the Forest Resources Technician program lending support to CNA faculty and students through: the use of facilities, such as the woodyard in Corner Brook; tours of the paper manufacturing facility; funding scholarships; hosting silviculture and harvesting tours; offering insight and support to CNA through guest lecturing, sharing of knowledge, provision of data\information to support our field-based training; actively participating in the FRT PAC, and supporting the annual CNA Tree Planting Service Learning project (linked to support for the Silver Ring Ceremony through the Canadian Institute of Forestry). As another example of our support, CBPPL has formally volunteered to designate a well-used CNA training site in Crescent Pond as a "Special Conservation Area" to protect a unique training area planted with an exotic spruce (Sitka Spruce).



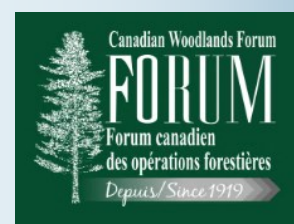
(Above) College Instructor Glen Payne chatting with a harvester operator that had once worked on his forest improvement crew as a pre-commercial thinner, on this very cut block. He was now harvesting the stand in a piece of forestry equipment.

(Picture to the right) Students in the CBPPL woodyard scaling a sample of roundwood.



Contractor Wins Multiple Awards

Nobles Resources (2012) Inc. was recognized as winners of the 2022 Atlantic Outstanding Logging Contractors of the Year Award at the Canadian Woodlands Forum (CWF) at the annual spring meeting in 2023. The Outstanding Forestry Contractor of the Year Award program, recognizing professionalism and business excellence, received a total of nine nominations for the 2022 award, from throughout the maritime provinces. Having been nominated for the Award recognizes commitment to responsible environmental performance, employee safety and training, and professional business practices. The forest industry congratulates them and their employees for a job well done, and wishes continued success in the logging businesses. Corner Brook Pulp and Paper are proud to have Nobles Resources working on our land base to supply fibre to the pulp and paper mill and saw mills across the island of Newfoundland and Labrador.



Tina Thomas receiving CWF award for Nobles Resources (2012) Inc. from Peter Robichaud

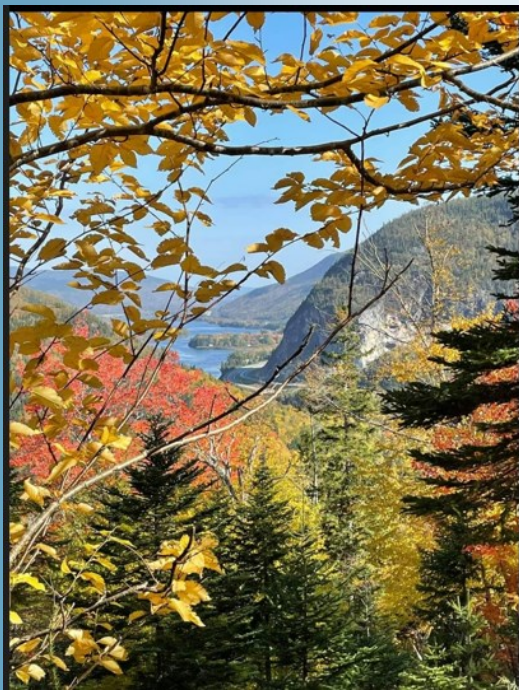


Tina Thomas and Grant Noble showing off Noble Resources (2012) Inc. awards at FSANL annual conference.



In front L to R: Owner Grant Noble, Site foreman Jeff Lewis, CBPPL operation superintendent Lorne Flynn, owner Gene Noble. With equipment operator Jim Mitchell.





Kruger Proudly Supports Students

IN THE PAST 20 YEARS, KRUGER AWARDED MORE THAN \$80,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE COLLEGE OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC IN CORNER BROOK

Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Environmental Scholarship \$1300
Awarded to:

Cameron Duff, CBS
Environmental Engineering Technology

Jennifer Kelly, Labrador City
Environmental Engineering Technology

Kay Narinesingh, Corner Brook
Environmental Engineering Technology

Corner Brook Pulp & Paper Scholarship \$500
Awarded to:

Tyler Turner, Gander
Forestry Resources Technician



Significant Environmental Aspects

Identification and evaluation of significant environmental aspects (SEAs), especially in the planning phase, is the most fundamental part of [ISO 14001](#) International Standard. To understand the environmental aspects and impacts is one of the key success factors of implementing an ISO 14001 EMS. In the language of ISO 14001, “an environmental aspect is an element of an organization’s activities, products, or services that has or may have an impact on the environment.” Annual continual improvement programs are built around the identified SEAs.

2024 will see an addition to the Woodlands SEAs to include GHG Emissions & Climate Change, and Fire.



Atlantic Teachers Tour

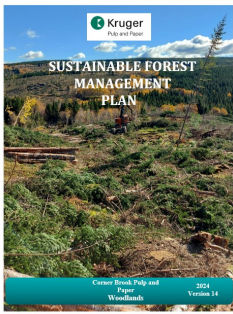
The Canadian Woodlands Forum (CWF) hosts an annual Atlantic Teachers’ Tour, focused on forest education. In 2023 the event was held in New Brunswick, and CBPPL sponsored a teacher from the NL school district to attend.

This tour is recognized as one of the best professional development programs in the region. Tours have been held in all three Maritime Provinces, exposing participants to the extent, vitality, and importance of the region’s forests and the people, industries, and communities who depend upon them. It is a collaborative effort among the forest product companies, academic organizations, governments, land owners, conservation groups and many, many others, as year after year, they come together to contribute their time, knowledge, and passion in the development of one truly awesome program.

The Canadian Woodland Forum hopes that the tours will help foster business-education partnerships between the forest sector and educators, by allowing teachers to make informed choices on sustainable forest management and possible career options for their students.



Mr. MacLellan,
I sincerely thank-you for this very insightful, resourceful, information rich experience. I have gained so much educationally, environmentally, and personally, that I otherwise would not have had the opportunity to experience. Thanks for providing me with such an inspiring opportunity.
Sincerely,
Elizabeth Drover



The SFM Plan is an annual report produced by CBPPL Woodlands Department. It can be found online at: www.cbppplwoodlands.com

Indicator 3.2.2 Stand Replacing Disturbance

Objective	3.0 Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources
Performance Measure	3.2 Program Participants shall implement water, wetland and riparian protection measures based on soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state BMPs, provincial guidelines and other applicable factors

Indicator:	3.2.2	Target	Acceptable Level
Proportion of watershed or water management areas with recent stand-replacing disturbance		To limit the proportion of watershed with recent stand-replacing disturbance within the DFA to 25% or less.	+ 5%
		Resource Person:	District Planner

Definitions

STAND-REPLACING DISTURBANCES: Any disturbance to a forest ecosystem (human or natural-caused) that will result in the removal of the over story. For CBPPL this will include clear-cutting, selection cutting, forest fires and wind throw.

WATERSHED: The region draining into a river, river system or other body of water.

Detailed Description

Fresh water is considered one of the most precious natural resources in the world today. A large percentage of Newfoundland’s fresh water filters through the ecosystem before entering our rivers and lakes, and is found in wetlands such as swamps, marshes, and bogs. In Newfoundland almost 50% of the land base is made up of such areas. Forested watersheds provide a range of important services to residents including the provision of clean (potable) water and the support of healthy aquatic ecosystems.

Research has shown that the most significant impacts to forested watersheds following timber harvest are changes in water table levels and stream flow. It is likely that similar changes occur after fire. As a general rule, harvesting impacts on stream-flow regimes are usually short-lived and less severe than those brought about by land-use changes, provided that forests soils are protected and vegetation recovery is rapid. In more well-watered areas, rapid revegetation often limits meaningful water yield increases to the first 3-5 years after treatment (Megahan & Hornbeck, 2000). Research by Natural Resources Canada provides a basis for the improvement of harvesting regulations by the provinces. This, coupled with the strict process management provided by forest certification, helps CBPPL evaluate and manage water quality and quantity on our land base.

A GIS analysis was undertaken in April 2011 to investigate the area in each watershed on CBPPL limits that had undergone a stand replacing disturbance in the past five years. Watershed boundaries used (Figure 6) were based on Forestry Services Branch defined watersheds for the province of Newfoundland. This scale of watershed classification was the only one available at the time with a GIS layer, which was necessary for the analysis.

In 2017 an analysis of watershed size was carried out to determine if watershed data was available to help downsize the watersheds currently being used, yet still maintain a scale that could provide reliable results. Digital watershed data was used to build a hydrology component/layer to the conservation feature analysis to develop a series of watersheds that intersect our DFA. Although some smaller watersheds were found, there were a number that were much larger. Consequently, we will continue using the current data set, but will keep looking for new watershed data to satisfy this core indicator.

Status in 2023

To report on recent stand replacing disturbances within a watershed, we had to define “recent”. The research discussed in the previous section, indicates that “rapid revegetation often limits meaningful water yield increases to the first 3-5 years after treatment”. Based on this we defined recent as 5 years after harvesting with an update every year. The results in the table below for two five-year periods show that CBPPL harvesting falls within the target of 25% or less disturbance in a watershed. (...Continue on next page)

Insert taken from: [CBPPL Sustainable Forest Management Report 2024 v13, Page 63](#)

Management Strategy

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper’s target is to have no more than 25% of a watershed within the DFA affected by some sort of recent stand-replacing disturbance, natural or human caused. Literature reviews indicate that effects of forest harvesting on water quality are negligible when disturbance levels are below 30% (Kotak et al, 2009), and minor effects on water yield (quantity) at harvesting levels of 30-40% of a watershed area (Rothwell, 1997). This level of disturbance is generally used as an upper limit for harvesting in watersheds in forest management plans.

CBPPL has chosen as a management strategy to limit recent (within five years) disturbance levels, both human and natural caused, in each watershed to 30% or less. Harvesting disturbances will not exceed 25%.

This is the first step in our management approach to stabilize water quantity and will be reviewed and updated every two years through GIS analysis. To ensure recent harvesting disturbances do not exceed 25% of the watershed, another step is required.

Cutover updates are done annually by Corner Brook Pulp and Paper planners and submitted to Forestry Services Branch, which conducts a wood supply analysis every five years to calculate the Province’s growing stock, which helps make adjustments to annual allowable cuts. This analysis also includes all recent cutover updates provided by CBPPL and any other major disturbances to the province’s forest.

During the preparation of Annual Operating Plans (AOP) by CBPPL, planners will monitor the amount of area recently disturbed in any watershed. Not all watersheds will have operations annually so the system is always in a state of flux, with older disturbances re-vegetating and consequently, actively contributing to water retention.

There are many factors to be assessed before an area is submitted to provincial government in an AOP. In addition to Annual Allowable Cuts in a forest management district, the amount of area disturbed in a watershed will play a factor in the planning of the wood supply for CBPPL.

Coniferous forests have a greater influence on water yield than deciduous forests, and species conversions from softwood to hardwoods or grass will usually increase water yields (Megahan & Hornbeck, 2000). CBPPL has no stand conversion from softwood to hardwood occurring on our land base. Each stand replacing disturbance is quickly regenerated either naturally or through the help of planting coniferous tree species. Vegetation re-growth is usually very rapid with a complete coverage after one year. Since recent changes to the species mix required by the mill, all hardwood species are being left standing on cut blocks to help with water retention, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, and fuel wood.

Forecast, Predicted Results or Outcome

Initial analysis of the stand replacing disturbances created by Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd. in each watershed over a five-year period was 1.34%, well within the acceptable level. More recent analyses show harvesting disturbances remain at a very low percentage of the watershed land base.

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd. does not forecast any drastic change to the percentage of area disturbed in the future.

Links with Strategic and Operational Plans

NL Sustainable Forest Management Strategy	5-Year Operating Plan	Annual Operating Plan
Evaluating the influence of forest management actions on water quantity is a goal of this strategy	Harvest areas are outlined and volume estimates calculated on a 5-year basis.	Harvest blocks are identified and net down volume calculations are completed annually.

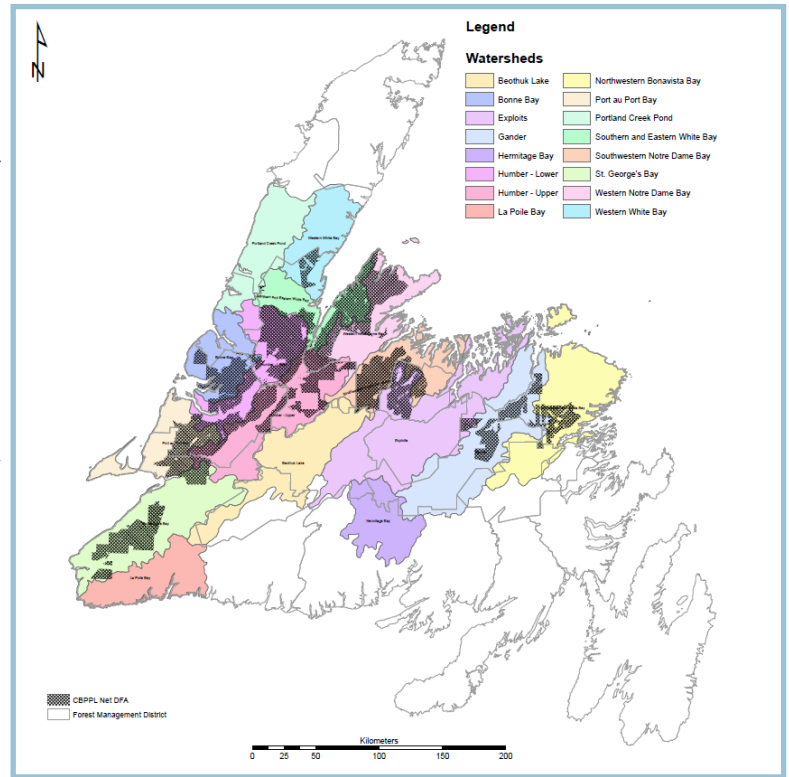


Figure 6. Watersheds for the province of Newfoundland as defined by Forestry Services Branch

The EUDR regulation affects seven commodities:



Cocoa



Coffee



Soy



Palm Oil



Wood



Rubber



Cattle/Beef

SEVEN COMMODITIES AFFECTED BY THE EUDR These commodities and associated products will soon be required to undergo strict mandatory due-diligence checks when entering the EU to demonstrate they have not been sourced from areas affected by deforestation or forest degradation.

European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) Implementation

The EU has adopted the EUDR regulation to ensure that products linked to deforestation or forest degradation are not imported into or exported from the EU.

How does that effect CBPPL in Newfoundland?

Because of the Environmental Management System (EMS) and the Environmental Certifications that the Provincial government and CBPPL Woodlands maintains, the product evidence is in a great position to support export of fibre from Newfoundland forests to meet the EUDR requirements.

Main components of the EUDR:

EUDR regulation (ref. article 3)

The goods and products concerned shall not be made available on the market or exported unless all the following conditions are met:

- 1) They are deforestation-free
- 2) They have been produced in compliance with current legislation in the country of production (legality)
- 3) They are covered by a declaration of due diligence. EUDR due diligence statements require specific information:

- a. Geolocation of forests where wood has been harvested (data collection and geolocation)
- b. Assessment of the risk attributed to the country of origin concerned (Risk Assessment)
- c. Mitigation measures (Risk Management)

At Corner Brook Pulp and Paper we take great pride in sustainable forestry!



Sustainable Forestry—3rd generation cut

During the summer of 2022, a harvesting operation at Logger School Road area, located just outside of Corner Brook, revealed a sign from a pre-commercial thinning operation back in 1986. This was the third harvest of this area for the Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Mill. Because of sustainable forestry practices, it is assured that this location, will once again produce a healthy forest stand that can be harvested.

Corner Brook Pulp and Paper
Employees ~500 people in three divisions:

300 in the Mill
175 in Woodlands
25 at Deer Lake Power

Labour income impacts (direct, indirect, and induced) of CBPPL operations totals 124.74 million to the provincial economy (CBPPL, 2022).

Runs 2 paper machines requiring 680,000m³ of wood fibre.

Produces 250,000 tones of newsprint annually.

The woodlands department is responsible to supply all wood fibre needed for operations to the mill yard.

Besides newsprint production, CBPPL also supply the needs of three large local sawmills that operate throughout the year, and the newsprint mill receives chips in return.

All wood fibre for the mill is tracked and monitored by the Woodlands Department through 3 certification standards:

Sustainable Forestry Initiative's (SFI) Forest Management Standard

SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard

ISO 14001 International Standard Organization



Logger School Road Operating Area

Your comments on our environmental performance, or suggestions on how we might improve our operations are always welcome.
To comment or to request information on CBPP Woodlands, please contact:

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Environmental Management Representative
Woodlands Department
Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Limited
P.O. Box 2001, Corner Brook, NL
A2H 6J4
Tel: (709) 627-3426
Email: jessica.galllott@kruger.com

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