

# SFI 2022 – Summary Audit Report

## DESCRIPTION OF THE CERTIFIED ORGANIZATION

Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation (RCFC) woodlands operations are situated on Crown tenure in British Columbia, Canada and is managed as TFL 56. TFL 56 is located in the rugged Columbia Mountains one hour north of the City of Revelstoke in the Downie Creek and Goldstream River drainages.

RCFC is a community owned forest company with objectives to manage for community values. RCFC supplies logs to the open market and does not have any post-harvest processing facilities, nor do they procure any fibre. More information on RCFC is available on the web site: <http://rcfc.bc.ca/>

The company SFI representative is Mike Copperthwaite, General Manager.

## AUDIT PROCESS

During the period of June 20, 2022 to June 24, 2022, Revelstoke Community Forest Corporation underwent a recertification audit to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) 2022 Forest Management (FM) Standard.

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 people communication.

The SFI program third-party audit was undertaken by SAI Global. SAI Global 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.

## THE AUDIT TEAM

The SAI Global audit team who performed the audit consisted of Cindy Hutchison, RPF, audit team leader. The auditor is a Professional Forester and a certified auditor.

## REGISTRATION TYPE

Certificate Type	SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard	SFI 2022 Fiber Sourcing Standard
Single site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Multi-site	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**MULTI-SITE / GROUP EVALUATION**

Not applicable. The certification is not a multi-site or group.

# SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard

## FOREST LAND AND MANGEMENT PLAN INCLUDED IN THE AUDIT SCOPE

<p>Management plan</p>	<p>Management Planning on TFL 56 is guided by the 2020 Management Plan #5 for TFL 56.</p> <p>Management planning encompass both the timber and non-timber values found in the forests and ensures that timber harvesting objectives are balanced against social and ecological values such as wildlife, biodiversity, and recreational opportunities.</p>
<p>Area of ownership</p>	<p>Situated 40 kilometers north of Revelstoke, TFL 56 covers an area of approximately 119,820 hectares. It is bounded on the west by the Lake Revelstoke reservoir, on the east by the height-of-land of the Selkirk Mountains, on the north by the Goldstream River and on the south by the Downie-Carnes height-of-land.</p> <p>The land is extremely rugged and dominated by two roughly east-west valleys – those of Downie Creek and Goldstream River – and one north-south valley, that of the Columbia River (Lake Revelstoke Reservoir). Elevation ranges from 573 metres at reservoir level to 3050 meters at Carnes Peak.</p> <p>The forested land base is a relatively small proportion of total area and the timber harvesting land base is even a smaller proportion still. Most harvesting is confined to valley sidewalls and valley bottoms. The remaining “high country” is too rugged or does not support marketable timber.</p> <p>The ruggedness has minimized human use, hence there are no settlements, little private land, and until recently little recreation use. One highway (Hwy 23N) traverses the TFL. Traffic is light and dominated by logging and other industrial traffic.</p> <p>Wildlife utilize the TFL area extensively. Grizzly bears, black bears, moose, deer, and caribou are common. Caribou have become a management issue because they have been extirpated over much of their former range.</p>
<p>Major timber types</p>	<p>The forest cover on TFL 56 is dominated by older forests with a high proportion of low value timber. The current proportions, by volume of leading species are; cedar 31%, spruce 31%, hemlock 24%, Douglas-fir 9%, and subalpine fir 5%.</p>
<p>Management approaches</p>	<p>Because of the older forest cover type silviculture systems are dominantly clearcut and clearcut with reserves, though some partial cutting has</p>

	occurred to meet other objectives. As such, even-aged management occurs where difficult but machine accessible sites are site prepped and all sites are planted.
Long-term harvest level	The TFL is 120,000 ha in area, of which 22,220 ha is in the timber harvest land base with an annual allowable cut (AAC) of 78,520 cubic meters.

### SCOPE OF CERTIFICATION

Forest management activities - planning, harvesting, and silviculture on TFL 56. Fiber sold under this certificate counts as 100% SFI and 100% PEFC certified forest content.

There has been no modification to the scope since the last public summary audit report.

### AUDIT PROCESS

During this audit, the audit team evaluated the company against the objectives listed in Table 1. The evidence of compliance observed is listed in Table 2. Both tables are found in the section Evidence of Conformity to the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard.

A sample sites (for the field audit) were chosen from a list of active sites and sites where forest management activities occurred since the last audit. The site choice also considered activity type, and risk factors, related to the audit objectives selected for review, as well as the opportunity to verify implementation of corrective actions for previous non-conformities.

### SUBSTITUTE INDICATORS

Not applicable. No substitute indicators were evaluated during this audit.

### COMPLAINTS

No complaints have been received.

### AUDIT TIME, SITES AND ACTIVITIES AUDITED

Audit Activity	Duration in days
Off-site preparation	0.25 days
On-site audit	3.5 days
Off-site audit	0.0 days
Field audit	1.0 days

Sites	Activities audited
TFL 56 Downie Mainline	Climate change actions - roadside signage active slide areas Log and gravel fords for roads in glacial area with large amount of runoff. Location of peak water moves constantly across hillside.
TFL 56 CP 440(140)-2	Cable and ground logging Contractor: Two Guys Logging ICH vk1 BEC Harvest Cw78Hw15Sx7 Clearcut with reserves WTRA (10%) 20% retention in ground-based harvest area 9.2% permanent access structure Planting prescription Cw40Sx40FdPw10 Reviewed: retention, streams, stream crossing, fuel management, utilization, wildlife awareness, invasive plant awareness, training, fire preparedness, working around streams, 5 m MFZ, SARA reporting, supervision, contractor communication.
TFL 56 CP 275-3	Harvested 2000 Planted 2001 with Hw leading Brushed multiple times 4.7 ha of juvenile spacing 2022. Objective to retain Cw then Fd, Sx, and Hw last. Prescription anticipated to release retention and change species mix to increase Cw component, which is more ecologically appropriate.
TFL 56 Layout for planned commercial thinning.	Planned thin from below for release and change of species mix to increase Cw component. Leave Cw, then Sx, then Fd. Reviewed live crown, choice of leave trees and spacing.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Definitions for findings can be found in Appendix 1.

### Non-conformance(s) identified during this audit

Not applicable. No non-conformances were identified.

List of new indicators for the 2022 transition:

PM 1.1 Ind 6	PM 1.2 Ind 2d	PM 1.4 Ind 1	PM 8.1 Ind 1	PM 8.2 Ind 1e, 1d	PM 9.1 Ind. All
PM 9.2 Ind. All	PM 10.1 Ind. All	PM 10.2 Ind. All	PM 12.1 Ind. 2	PM 12.2 Ind. 1f	PM 14.1 Ind. 2i, j, k

### Opportunities for improvement

Not applicable. No OFIs were identified.

- Consider holstering or bucketing tidy tank fuel nozzles and labelling all liquids regardless of hazard. For example, Diesel Exhaust Fluid (non-hazardous but looks like water).
- Consider clarifying how information required in 14.1.2 (k) on reporting inconsistent practices, is provided to landowners as the information is not in SFI WCSIC wood producer information package.

### Exceptional management practices

Not applicable. No exceptional practices were identified.

- Moving towards second growth management in a thoughtful and innovative manner.
- Stop work practices well demonstrated for red-tailed hawk nest.
- Educational outreach on forests show that foresters can be creative.

### Status of previous audit non-conformance(s)

Not applicable. No non-conformities were raised during the previous audit.

## CERTIFICATION DECISION SFI 2022 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

### Recertification Audit

Based on the results of this audit, it has been determined that the management system is effectively implemented and meets the requirements relative to the scope of registration and audit criteria.

No non-conformances were issued to the new 2022 indicators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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For this recertification audit, a recommendation to maintain the certification is made to SAI Global

**EVIDENCE OF CONFORMITY TO THE SFI 2022 FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD**
**Table 1 Objectives Audited**

1.4	Forest Management Standard Principles	☒
Objective 1	Forest Management Planning	☒
Objective 2	Forest Health and Productivity	☒
Objective 3	Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources	☒
Objective 4	Conservation of Biological Diversity	☒
Objective 5	Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits	☒
Objective 6	Protection of Special Sites	☒
Objective 7	Efficient Use of Forest Resources	☒
Objective 8	Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights	☒
Objective 9	Climate Smart Forestry	☒
Objective 10	Fire Resilience and Awareness	☒
Objective 11	Legal and Regulatory Compliance	☒
Objective 12	Forestry Research, Science and Technology	☒
Objective 13	Training and Education	☒
Objective 14	Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach	☒
Objective 15	Public Land Management Responsibilities	☒
Objective 16	Communications and Public Reporting	☒
Objective 17	Management Review and Continual Improvement	☒

**Table 2 Evidence Observed**

<b>Objective 1 Forest Management Planning</b>	
Maps / GIS inventories	<input type="checkbox"/>
Long term management plans and sustainable harvest level calculation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AAC Rationale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Timber Supply Analysis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Timber development standards	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cutting/harvesting permits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut control statements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Silviculture reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annual report regarding RCFC impacts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 2 Forest Health and Productivity</b>	
Maps / GIS inventories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wet/adverse weather plans or guidelines	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reforestation plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planting program records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Silviculture surveys and reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Standards for seed use	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pre-harvest site assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tree improvement reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BMP monitoring records / reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Legal requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Road and bridge inspection records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pest management plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 3 Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources</b>	
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Landscape level assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BMP monitoring records / reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
EMS and SFI field handbook	<input type="checkbox"/>
Logging agreements and/or contracts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pre-work discussions/meeting records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire preparedness plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spill prevention and response plan	<input type="checkbox"/>

Wet weather procedures	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 4 Conservation of Biological Diversity</b>	
Maps / GIS inventories	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Long term management plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government policies: Old Growth / spatial data	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Impact assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood producer training programs: endangered species	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NatureServe queries	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research support records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Observation / survey forms and records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 5 Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits</b>	
Visual assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Long term management plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cut block size calculations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Green-up records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Free growing records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Recreation areas maps	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 6 Protection of Special Sites</b>	
Maps / GIS inventories	<input type="checkbox"/>
Consultation on special sites	<input type="checkbox"/>
interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 7 Efficient Use of Forest Resources</b>	
Utilization records / specifications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Waste surveys	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 8 Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights</b>	
Maps / GIS inventories	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agreements and communications with Indigenous communities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Written policies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communication records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 9 Climate Smart Forestry</b>	
Climate change risk assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Climate adaptation plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reforestation plans	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planting program records	<input type="checkbox"/>
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	<input type="checkbox"/>
Silviculture surveys and reports	<input type="checkbox"/>
Field review / interviews	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SFI annual progress report	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 10 Fire Resilience and Awareness</b>	
Wildfire impact risk assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Operational plans (annual, cut block level)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for best management practices	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire preparedness plan / fire prevention program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Silviculture assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire management awareness programs participation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 11 Legal and Regulatory Compliance</b>	
Laws, legislation, regulations records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Regulatory action information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Corrective action logs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monitoring of legal requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Social policy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Health and safety manual and/or employee policy manual	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 12 Forestry Research, Science and Technology</b>	
Support for research and science	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Research and discussion papers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Communication on research / implementation of research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Research knowledge transfer participation / communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 13 Training and Education</b>	
SFI policy / written policies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roles and responsibilities documents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Training agenda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Training records (staff and contractors)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Written agreements / contracts for the use of qualified logging professionals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood producer information package	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
QLP continuing education criteria and delivery mechanisms	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 14 Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach</b>	
SFI Annual Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SFI and company websites	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SFI brochure	<input type="checkbox"/>
SFI Implementation Committee (participation/support)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Voluntary market-based incentive program information / participation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education/community involvement records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SFI Implementation Committee non-conformance process information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 15 Public Land Management Responsibilities</b>	
Multi-licensee and/or government meeting minutes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Stakeholder communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 16 Communications and Public Reporting</b>	
Summary audit report posting in SFI database	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Past SFI Annual Progress Report and submission information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SFI Annual Progress Report data summary records	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Objective 17 Management Review and Continual Improvement</b>	
Internal audit records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Annual management review records	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Appendix 1: Definitions and Sampling Approach

## DEFINITIONS

### **Major Non-Conformances**

Pervasive or critical to the achievement of the SFI objectives

All major non-conformances require an action plan to be implemented by the auditee within 90 days of an initial/Recertification audit or certification cannot be achieved. During a surveillance audit, an unresolved major nonconformity will lead to the suspension of the certificate.

### **Minor Non-Conformances**

Isolated incidents that are non-critical but must be addressed before the next surveillance audit to maintain compliance to the SFI standard. Non resolved minor non-conformance will be escalated to a major non-conformance.

### **Opportunity for Improvement**

Are not non-conformances but are comments on specific areas where improvements can be made.

### **Exceptional Practices**

Creative and unusual management practice worth mentioning.

## MULTI-SITE / GROUP SAMPLING APPROACH

<p>Where the multi-site / group organization maintains an internal audit program, which has been determined to be reliable, the SAI Global sampling approach is as follows:  n = number of sites:  i. <math>\sqrt{(n)}</math> for initial certification audits  ii. <math>0.6 \sqrt{(n)}</math> for surveillance audits  iii. <math>0.8 \sqrt{(n)}</math> for re-registration audits  The central office function is audited annually.</p>	<p>Where the multi-site / group organization did not maintain its internal audit program, the SAI Global sampling approach is as follows:  n = number of sites:  <math>\sqrt{(n)}</math>  The central office function is audited annually.</p>
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SAI Global certifies forest companies to ISO 14001, SFI Forest Management, SFI Chain of Custody, SFI Fiber Sourcing, SFI Certified Sourcing, PEFC Chain of Custody, FSC® Forest Management, and FSC® Chain of Custody.

The group, led by Sylvain Frappier, Global programme manager - Forestry, consists of a highly qualified team of professional foresters, technical and industry experts.

Contact [SAI Global Assurance](#) for more information.

#### Company Contact

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