

Date of notice :



Public notification

FSC® Forest Management Annual Surveillance Audit

Taan Forest Limited Partnership

in

Skidegate, British Columbia, Canada

Introduction

NEPCon is conducting an FSC® forest management and chain of custody annual audit of Taan Forest Limited Partnership located in Skidegate, British Columbia, Canada. The evaluation will be conducted during the week of **November 30, 2020**.

Scope of Evaluation

The FSC® certification audit will assess the environmental, silvicultural and socioeconomic aspects of the forest management unit(s) (FMU) managed by Taan Forest Limited Partnership, using the National Forest Stewardship Standard (NFSS). To obtain a copy, please visit: <https://ca.fsc.org/en-ca/standards/new-national-forest-management-standard>

Information on this FSC certificate holder is available on FSC's website: <https://info.fsc.org/details.php?id=a0240000006uStfAAE&type=certificate>

NEPCon is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC) and this evaluation will follow procedures which have been approved by the Forest Stewardship Council®.

Team Composition

Nicolas Lecomte, Biol. PhD, will lead the audit team.

Steps and Schedule

In consideration of COVID-19 related travel restrictions in effect at time of audit planning not permitting field visits to be conducted, it has been determined that an evaluation can still be credibly conducted remotely, in alignment with [NEPCon's policy on auditing during COVID-19 outbreak](#) and [FSC derogation](#). Following is a short description of the evaluation process and a tentative agenda:

- Desk audit – The audit team will complete a desk audit of Taan Forest Limited Partnership during the week of **November 30, 2020**.

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- Stakeholder and Indigenous communities/peoples consultation – Throughout the evaluation, the team will contact local stakeholders and indigenous people regarding the forest management activities of Taan Forest Limited Partnership in communities surrounding the forest area. This will be conducted through private phone interviews and videoconferences.
- Final evaluation briefing – Upon completion of the remote audit, the team will meet virtually with the Taan Forest Limited Partnership forest managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- Draft report production – The audit team will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Taan Forest Limited Partnership. This should occur within one month after completion of the evaluation.
- Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from the Taan Forest Limited Partnership forest managers, and other general stakeholder and indigenous communities/peoples comments, NEPCon will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur by **Fall/Winter, 2020**.

Your Comments Sought

As a part of the audit process we invite stakeholders to offer comments on the Taan Forest Limited Partnership forest management activities in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. **We welcome input, either public or confidential.** Your input will be valuable at any stage of the process, but we would prefer to receive your comments before the end of the on-site audit so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision. Your options for communicating your comments are as follows:

1. Speak with a NEPCon audit team member before or during the audit.
2. Send comments to the NEPCon staff person responsible for coordinating this audit (see contact info below).

Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential, available only to FSC and NEPCon staff.

NEPCon's complaints, appeals and dispute resolution policy is available to stakeholders at www.nepcon.org.

Contacting the Audit Team Nicolas Lecomte ♦ Email: nico@valeurnature.ca ♦ Telephone: 819-760-0340	Contacting NEPCon Mylène Raimbault ♦ Email: mraimbault@preferredbynature.org ♦ Telephone: 819-629-5950 ♦ Worldwide Website: www.nepcon.org	Mailing address NEPCon Canada Inc. PO box 1771, Chelsea QC, J9B1A1
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