



**Public Briefing Paper for**  
**FSC® Forest Management Certification Re-Assessment of**  
**Dwight Lewis Lumber Company**  
**in**  
**Hillsgrove, Pennsylvania USA**  
**June 1, 2021**

**Introduction** – Preferred by Nature is conducting Forest Stewardship Council (FSC®) Forest Management and Chain of Custody certification re-assessments of Dwight Lewis Lumber Company with an office located in Hillsgrove, Pennsylvania. Dwight Lewis Lumber Company has been certified by Preferred by Nature (formerly NEPCo) since October 25, 2005 (NC-FM/COC-001674). The re-assessment includes 46 properties (all <1,000 ha) in Pennsylvania totaling approximately 6,461 hectares. The re-assessment remote audit will begin on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and field work will be begin on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.

**Scope of the Certification Re-Assessment** – The forest management certification re-assessment will assess the environmental, silvicultural, and socioeconomic aspects of the certified forests managed by Dwight Lewis Lumber Company, using the *FSC-US Forest Management Standard (v1.1)* and the *FSC Standard For Group Entities in Forest Management Groups (FM-STD-30-005)*. To obtain a copy of these guidelines, please visit the FSC-US website (at <https://us.fsc.org/en-us/certification/forest-management-certification>) or contact Preferred by Nature directly by telephone, fax, or e-mail as listed below. Preferred by Nature is accredited by the Forest Stewardship Council™ (FSC®)<sup>1</sup> and this re-assessment process must follow procedures which have been approved by the FSC.

**Re-Assessment Team Composition** – The re-assessment will be conducted by Steven Grado, Lead Auditor, Forestry and Socio-economic Specialist.

**Re-assessment Steps and Schedule** – Following is a short description of the certification process and a tentative agenda:

- ◆ Re-assessment organization – The Preferred by Nature auditors and Dwight Lewis Lumber Company staff will meet remotely to begin the audit on July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, and will meet in person at Dwight Lewis Lumber Company's office in Hillsgrove, PA on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 to conduct field work.
- ◆ Field assessments – The auditors will visit properties managed by Dwight Lewis Lumber Company that are included in the scope of the certificate on July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021.
- ◆ Re-assessment briefing – Prior to departure, the auditors will meet with Dwight Lewis Lumber Company managers and other parties to finalize their data collection and present preliminary findings.
- ◆ Stakeholder consultation – The auditors will conduct interviews with stakeholders prior to, during, and after the re-assessment.

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<sup>1</sup> FSC® A000535

- ◆ Draft report production – The auditors will produce a confidential draft report that will be circulated for comment to Dwight Lewis Lumber Company. This should occur 45 days after completion of the re-assessment field work.
- ◆ Certification decision – Upon receipt of comments on the draft report from Dwight Lewis Lumber Company and other general stakeholder comments, Preferred by Nature will reach a certification decision. Barring unforeseen obstacles, this should occur no later than 90 days after the reassessment date.

**Your Input Sought** – As a part of the forest certification re-assessment process, we invite stakeholders to offer comment and feedback on Dwight Lewis Lumber Company's forest management in relation to conformance with the requirements of the forest management standard referenced above. We welcome input, either public or confidential, in whatever form is easiest and most secure for you. Your input will be valuable at any stage of the re-assessment process, but we would prefer to receive your comments either prior to the re-assessment, during the re-assessment, or prior to July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 so that we can take them into consideration in reaching a certification decision by Dwight Lewis Lumber Company. Your options for communicating your observations to us are as follows:

1. Meet with the Preferred by Nature audit team during or shortly after the fieldwork.
2. Call and give comments to Steve Grado, the Preferred by Nature auditor responsible for coordinating stakeholder participation.
3. Submit written comments by mail, FAX or email to Steve Grado. Unless you request otherwise, these comments will be kept confidential and are solely for the purposes of auditing Dwight Lewis Lumber Company as described in this briefing.

*Steve Grado, Socioeconomic Auditor*

- ◆ Email: [sgrado@hotmail.com](mailto:sgrado@hotmail.com)
- ◆ Telephone: 662-325-2792 (work); 662-617-3691 (cell)
- ◆ FAX: 662-325-8726
- ◆ Mailing address: 707 Shadowood Lane, Starkville, MS 39759-4133

For more information or to provide comments on Dwight Lewis Lumber Company's forest management, you can also contact Carolyn Loeb, the Preferred by Nature staff person responsible for coordinating this recertification audit.

### **Contacting Preferred by Nature**

*Carolyn Loeb, Forestry Specialist at Preferred by Nature*

- ◆ Email: [cloeb@preferredbynature.org](mailto:cloeb@preferredbynature.org)
- ◆ Website: [www.preferredbynature.org](http://www.preferredbynature.org)
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The source of any information provided will be kept confidential and will be available to only the FSC and Preferred by Nature staff.

Stakeholders who may wish to dispute any aspect of the forest certification process or decision can access Preferred by Nature's Complaints, Appeals and Dispute resolution procedures at <https://preferredbynature.org/certification/fsc/complaints-and-resolutions>.