SmartLogging
2021 Annual audit
Report for:
Louisiana Forestry Association

In
Alexandria, Louisiana USA

Certificate code: NC-SL-002480
Auditors: Randy Coots
Audit Dates: 4 March 2021
Report Finalized: 7 April 2021

Certificate: SmartLogger
issue/expiry: 10 July 2017
9 July 2022

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Alexandria LA 71307-5067
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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to document annual audit conformance of Louisiana Forestry Association (LFA), hereafter referred to as SmartLogging Operation (SLO). The report presents the findings of Preferred by Nature auditors who have evaluated company systems and performance against the SmartLogging standards and policies. Section 2 of this report provides the audit conclusions and any necessary follow-up actions by the SLO through corrective action requests.

Preferred by Nature audit reports include information which will become public information. Sections 1-3 will be posted on Preferred by Nature’s website. All appendices will remain confidential.

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2. AUDIT FINDINGS AND RESULTS

2.1. Audit conclusion

Based on the SLO’s conformance with SmartLogging requirements, the audit team makes the following recommendation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification requirements met; certificate maintenance recommended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No NCRs issued</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification requirements not met:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conformance with Major NCR(s) required</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional comments: NA

Issues identified as controversial or hard to evaluate: NA

2.2. Changes in the SLO operation, structure, group membership, etc.

No changes noted from last audit.

2.3. Conformance with applicable corrective action requests

The section below describes the activities of the certificate holder to address each applicable corrective action request issued during previous evaluations. For each NCR a finding is presented along with a description of its current status. Failure to meet NCRs will result in nonconformances being upgraded from minor to major status with conformance required within 3 months with risk of
suspension or termination of the Preferred by Nature certificate if Major NCRs are not met. The following classification is used to indicate the status of the NCR:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCR Status Categories</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>Certified operation has successfully met the NCR and addressed the underlying nonconformance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Certified operation has not met the NCR; underlying nonconformance is still present. NCR becomes a Major NCR with a 3-month deadline for conformance</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

☒ Check if no NCR(s) have been issued

2.4. New corrective actions issued as a result of this audit

No new NCR’s were issued as a result of this audit.

2.5. Audit observations

Observations are very minor problems or the early stages of a problem which does not of itself constitute a non-conformance, but which the auditor considers may lead to a future non-conformance if not addressed by the client. An observation may be a warning signal on a particular issue that, if not addressed, could turn into a NCR in the future.

No new Observations were issued as a result of this audit.

3. AUDIT PROCESS

3.1. Auditors and qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role and qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randy Coots</td>
<td>Lead Auditor: B.S. in Forestry from West Virginia University. Thirty-five years’ experience in the field of forestry. including positions with 2 state forestry agencies (FL &amp; WV), 4 forest products companies, U.S. Forest Service, a surveyor, self-employed forestry consultant, and now currently employed by Preferred by Nature as a Forest Management and Chain of Custody Associate. Member of the Society of American Foresters and a Certified Forester (#1547), and a WV Registered Professional Forester (#266) and have served on the Board of</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2. Audit Overview

This audit was conducted as a fully remote audit due to COVID-19. This was in accordance with Preferred by Nature Policy on Auditing during COVID-19 Outbreak. Preferred by Nature determined that a fully remote audit could be credibly conducted for the organization.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site(s)</th>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Main activities</th>
<th>Auditor(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canvas, WV</td>
<td>19 February 2021 and 3 March 2021</td>
<td>Review of evidence provided</td>
<td>Coots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remote- Zoom</td>
<td>4 March 2021</td>
<td>Opening meeting, logger interview, staff interview, closing meeting</td>
<td>Coots</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canvas, WV</td>
<td>12 March 2021</td>
<td>Review of evidence provided and report writing</td>
<td>Coots</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total auditing time used (number in person days based on 8 hour working days): 2

3.3. Sampling methodology:

LFA SmartLogging is a small group with only 3 members. The membership is geographically separated with 1 member in southern Louisiana and 2 members in northern Louisiana. Since the 2 northern members are somewhat close together, they are typically audited during the same the year, while the lone southern member is audited on different years. This year, the southern member was audited. The SmartLogging Standard guidance for sampling of small groups is to sample at least 25% of the group members during assessments and reassessments and at least half of that number for annual audits. With only 3 group members, auditing of only one each year meets this requirement.

3.4. Stakeholder consultation process

No formal stakeholder notification was conducted for this surveillance audit. Individual stakeholders were interviewed as available to evaluate conformance to requirements.
### (NGO, government bodies, local inhabitant, contractor etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>consulted directly or provided input (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local businesses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contractors</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting Forester</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 3.5. Changes to Certification Standards

| SmartLogging standard used in audit: | SmartLogging Generic Certification Standard, Version 6, SL-02  
SmartLogging Group Certification Standard, Version 1, SL-03 |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Revisions to the standard since the last audit: | Yes No changes to standard.  
☐ Standard was changed (detail changes below) |
| Changes in standard: | None |
| Implications for SLO: | Conformance to new requirements verified |
APPENDIX I: List of visited sites (confidential)

APPENDIX II: List of stakeholders consulted (confidential)

APPENDIX III: SmartLogging standard conformance (confidential)

APPENDIX IV: Chain of Custody Conformance (confidential)

APPENDIX V: Group management conformance checklist (confidential)
APPENDIX VI: Certified Group Membership List

1. Total # members in the certified group:

GROUP MEMBERSHIP TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Member</th>
<th>Registration Subcode assigned</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Type of Equipment</th>
<th>Date of entry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Aucoin</td>
<td></td>
<td>PO Box 8815 Clinton, LA 70722</td>
<td>Conventional</td>
<td>2006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total number in certified group. 3