

Tier 1
OFMI-1SY-520-D-02
Revision H
Page 1 of 4

# Environmental Management System

System Documentation **Forest Policy**

## FOREST POLICY

January 29, 2024

Ondaadiziwin Forest Management Inc. (OFMI) recognizes the importance of managing the Lac Seul Forest in a responsible manner that is based on forest sustainability. OFMI has great respect for the lands and waters in which we live.

The customary stewardship responsibilities of the First Nations peoples will continue and be reaffirmed through sustainable forest management practices. OFMI supports the responsible stewardship of resources, including the forest, fish and aquatic habitat, wildlife, air, land and water.

Responsible stewardship is the cornerstone to ensuring sustained economic development and improving the quality of life for First Nations people and those that live in the surrounding communities. In this spirit, OFMI is committed to implementing and maintaining an effective environmental management systems program that will govern its environmental matters and will benefit the environment, the community, the shareholders, employees and customers.

OFMI can meet these obligations through:

- Sustainable Forest Management- Practicing land stewardship that integrates the management of the forest with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, carbon, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation, aesthetics, the protection of special sites while managing for climate and fire risk. This includes maintaining the productive capacity of the forest landbase and maintaining long term forest ecosystem health.
- Social Laws - Complying with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, worker's compensation, Indigenous People's rights, worker's and communities' rights, prevailing wages, worker's right to organize, and occupational health and safety. Staff, consultants and logging contractors will respect the rights of workers and labor representatives in a manner that encompasses the intent of the International Labor Organization (ILO) core conventions.
- Legal Compliance - Complying with the applicable federal, provincial, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations. This includes: access to relevant laws and

Tier 1
OFMI-1SY-520-D-02
Revision H
Page 2 of 4

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## System Documentation **Forest Policy**

regulations in appropriate locations; a system to achieve compliance with these laws and regulations; and demonstration of commitment to legal compliance through available *regulatory action information*.

- Research – Supporting advances and investing in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.
- Training and Education - Improving the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs. Staff, consultants and logging contractors will have QLP education and training to fulfill their roles and responsibilities.
- Community Involvement and Social Responsibility - Through joint engagement, OFMI and local communities (aboriginal and non-aboriginal) discuss the specific social, environmental and economic interests of the community. This also includes the appropriate contact with local stakeholders over forest management issues through provincial, federal or independent collaboration.
- Commitment to Recognize and Respect the Rights of Indigenous Peoples - The recognition and respect of Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional forest-related knowledge are paramount to OFMI. OFMI will confer with the local aboriginal communities with respect to sustainable forest management practices on the Lac Seul Forest. This will provide insight to their traditional forest-related knowledge, protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites, understand their non-timber forest products, and to communicate inquiries or concerns.
- Transparency - Broadening the understanding of forest certification by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available. To increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance to SFI Inc.
- Continual Improvement - Reviewing commitments, programs and procedures to evaluate effectiveness. Continually improving the practice of forest management, fostering improvement in the professionalism, monitoring, measuring and reporting performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.