



Supply Base Report: BIOMASSE DU LAC TAUREAU

Scope Change Audit

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The promise of good biomass



Completed in accordance with the Supply Base Report Template Version 1.4

For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see www.sbp-cert.org

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2 Description of the Supply Base

2.1 General description

Feedstock types: Primary, Secondary

Includes Supply Base evaluation (SBE): Yes

Feedstock origin (countries): Canada

2.2 Description of countries included in the Supply Base

Country:Canada

Area/Region: Québec

Exclusions: No

Biomasse du Lac Taureau (BDLT) is a pellet mill located in St-Michel-des-Saints, 100 km North of Joliette in the Lanaudière region, Province of Québec, Canada (see figure 1). The table below provides statistics of the forest primary wood industry in Quebec and Lanaudière.

| Type of mill | Province of Québec | Total Jobs – primary mills | Lanaudière |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Pulp & paper | 22 | 8066 | |
| Sawmills | 169 | 9000 | 8 |
| Veneer and plywood | 10 | 5298 | |
| Particle boards and OSB | 11 | | |
| Turned and shaped wood | 4 | 12789 | |
| Cogeneration and pellets | 37 | 1 | |

Ref. : Ressources et industries forestières du Québec - Portrait Statistique 2020 (MFFP)

The total Supply Base is estimated at 104,638 km² including land and water bodies. Of this total, 12,155 km² of land are legally protected. Tenure is almost evenly split 50-50. Private land area was estimated based on those neighboring public land included in the Supply Base and proximity to a secondary feedstock supplier located on the south shore of the St-Lawrence River. Finally, tertiary feedstock is sourced from a mill located in the province of New Brunswick as FSC certified.

All feedstock sourced from the province of Quebec is covered by the SBP Regional Risk Assessment for the province of Québec. A significant proportion of primary feedstock from public lands can be delivered with either an FSC or SFI claim. Forest management units (FMU) on public land part of BDLT supply base are all certified with the exception of FMU 61-51 which is not certified and FMU 64-52 with partial certification. As for private woodlots, primary feedstock is sourced under subcontractor agreements of

neighboring municipalities to the mill. This includes municipalities of the Lanaudière and the Mauricie administrative regions. The Supply Base includes additional regions because of their proximity to public FMU. They are the Outaouais and Laurentides regions on the north shore of the St-Lawrence River.

Secondary feedstock is sourced either primarily from FSC certified primary manufacturing mills or through FSC certified brokers. All Mills are located in the province of Quebec. The forest origins of this feedstock are from Quebec's administrative regions of Outaouais, Laurentides, Lanaudière, Mauricie, Capitale-Nationale, Montérégie, Centre-du-Québec, Estrie, Beauce, Chaudière-Appalaches et Bas-St-Laurent.

Laws, communications and their application are part of the Provincial government responsibilities. Forest management plans and regulation compliance are undertaken by the Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks. The overall evaluation of forestry practices on both private and public land is undertaken by an independent officer, the *Forestier en Chef*.

Created in 2005, as a recommendation from the Commission of Studies on the Management of the Public Forest in Quebec (the Coulombe commission), the *Forestier en Chef's* mission is to determine the annual allowable cut, bring clarifications to the leaders and inform the population on the well-being of the forest. The *Forestier en chef* roles and responsibilities are described by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act - SFDA*.

The SFDA establishes a forest regime designed to:

- (1) implement sustainable forest development, in particular through ecosystem-based development;
- (2) ensure integrated and regionalized resource and land management based on clear, consistent objectives, measurable results and the accountability of managers and users of the forest;
- (3) determine how responsibilities under the forest regime are shared between the Province, regional bodies, Native communities and users of the forest;
- (4) follow up and monitor forest operations in the domain of the Province;
- (5) govern the sale of timber and other forest products on the open market at a price reflecting their market value, and the supply of timber to wood processing plants;
- (6) regulate the development of private forests; and
- (7) govern forest protection activities.

The regime implements sustainable forest development which must contribute, in particular to:

- (1) the preservation of biological diversity;
- (2) the maintenance and improvement of the condition and productivity of forest ecosystems;
- (3) the conservation of soil and water;
- (4) the maintenance of forest ecosystem contributions to major ecological cycles;
- (5) the maintenance of the many socio-economic benefits society derives from forests; and
- (6) the consideration, in making development choices, of the values and needs expressed by the populations concerned.

Forests are part of the province's heritage and continue to be a source of pride for all. It provides socio-economic and environmental benefits for local communities and the general population. They are managed in respect of their environmental services, resources and products they generate. They are managed under the *Sustainable forest development Act* (chapter A-18.1) which promotes ecosystem based forest

management for the benefit of all users and society as a whole. Forest management takes into account the impact of climate change, the preservation of biodiversity, the protection of land and water ecosystems and the interests, values and needs of First Nation communities.

The *Environment Quality Act*, the *Natural Heritage Conservation Act* and the Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species aim, respectively, to protect the environment, to safeguard the character, diversity and integrity of Quebec's natural heritage, and to protect and manage species designated threatened or vulnerable or likely to be so designated as well as their habitats. The MELCC and the MFFP enforce these laws and regulations in the forest territory.

The vulnerable plants and animal species found in the supply base sensitive to forest operations are the American ginseng (*Panax quinquefolius*) and the Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*). Best management practices and regulations are implemented to mitigate the risk of forest operations on these species. The American elm (*Ulmus Americana*), White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) are listed as endangered by the IUCN but neither by federal and provincial governments nor by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). According to the IUCN, threats to White Ash and American elm are from invasive non-native/alien species/diseases and not related to forestry practices. These species are found in the southern part of the supply base in mixed stands and can be harvested although they are usually of non commercial dimensions.

Management of SBP Specified Risks - SBP Quebec RRA

FSC or SFI certified forests are considered SBP compliant and are excluded from the scope of the procedures managing SBP specified risks identified by the SBP Quebec Regional Risk Assessment - RRA. The Qc RRA identified specified risks when harvest of forest biomass occurs on sites sensitive to loss of nutrients. On both public and private tenures, harvest of forest residuals on these sites must be adapted to minimize the risk of nutrient loss. Additional monitoring is required to assess forest operations on private lands protect and maintain soil quality. Harvests carried out without any governmental financial aid or without the tax reimbursement program are to be evaluated to assess the protection of waterways, conservation values and biodiversity.

The internal audit program of uncertified fibre supply is divided in two, distinguishing between log supply sourced directly from forest contractors and second, wood fibre supply sourced from sawmills (secondary feedstock). All suppliers are required to sign a contractual agreement where they commit in providing the necessary information to identify the forests of origin of their wood supply. For example, sawmills provide their records of deliveries by supplier, by marketing board and by municipality. BDLT collects all information relative to the forest management unit on public tenure and private woodlots including municipal by-laws, maps, forest management plans, landscape management plans, etc.

Field visit forms are to be completed before first log deliveries at the BDLT mill. For secondary feedstock, sampled sites are visited at least once either before, during or once harvesting has been finalized. Sampling intensity is of $0.6 * \text{square root of the number of suppliers of the sawmill}$. The following criteria are considered for the selection of sites to visit: non-certified woodlots, harvests without prescriptions or governmental financial aid, the quantity of deliveries to the sawmill, proximity or existence of watercourses or wetlands, conservation values, protected areas, other mapped areas of interest.

Moderate and high level non-conformities are directly related with Qc RRA specified risks. When they are observed during field visits, additional sites of the supplier are sampled at $0.8 * \text{square root of the number of harvest sites where wood fibre was sourced and delivered to the sawmill}$. If a non-conformity cannot be corrected, the proportion of the supplier's deliveries to the sawmill relative to the sawmill's deliveries to BDLT will be deducted from the credit table as non SBP compliant biomass.

The list of sites visited is maintained and updated for future reference and third-party audits.

2.3 Actions taken to promote certification amongst feedstock supplier

Forest certification in Quebec is the norm on public land and in the forest sector. Certification of forest management practices and chain of custody is widespread in the province and in the supply region of BDLT. This guarantees consumers forest products are certified and practices verified by a third-party.

BLDT requires suppliers to deliver feedstock with proper documentation demonstrating proof of origin and certification status when possible. BDLT is a member of the Quebec Wood Export Bureau (QWEB) which promote the legality and sustainable forest management of the wood supply of their members.

2.4 Quantification of the Supply Base

Supply Base

- a. **Total Supply Base area (million ha):** 10,46
- b. **Tenure by type (million ha):**52.87 (Privately owned), 51.77 (Public)
- c. **Forest by type (million ha):**5.29 (Boreal), 99.35 (Temperate)
- d. **Forest by management type (million ha):**106.64 (Managed natural)
- e. **Certified forest by scheme (million ha):**10.41 (FSC), 51.78 (SFI)

Describe the harvesting type which best describes how your material is sourced: Mix of the above

Explanation: Harvesting mimic natural disturbance patterns and intensity. Clearcuts are more common in the boreal forest where natural disturbances can impact forests at a landscape level. Forest management is based on ecosystem based management and integrated in the Quebec Forest Act. In the mixed hardwood forests of the southern part of the supply base in Quebec, harvest areas are on average smaller in size and where selective cutting is more common practice. This is because natural disturbances are smaller in size in terms of patches or groups of trees. Stand composition is also more diverse in terms of species and structure.

Was the forest in the Supply Base managed for a purpose other than for energy markets? Yes - Majority

Explanation: Timber volume allocation is publicly available by forest administrative regions. - Only 25% of the total volume allocation is made available to the open market (bmmb.gouv.qc.ca). Since the volume are attributed to the highest bidder, biomass producers are not targeted end users of this process. - Five year timber volume allocation - There are currently marginal punctual allocation for biomass producers. Feedstock of BDLT represent approximately 8% of the volume allocated on public forests part of its supply base (Allocated volumes for forest management units on public land in regions of Lanaudière, Laurentides, Outaouais - <https://mffp.gouv.qc.ca/les-forets/amenagement-durable-forets/les-droits-consentis/la-garantie-dapprovisionnement-ga/droits-forestiers-application-garanties-dapprovisionnement-ga/>).

For the forests in the Supply Base, is there an intention to retain, restock or encourage natural regeneration within 5 years of felling? Yes - Majority

Explanation: Forest management legislation in Canada on both public and private land require sites to remain productive and regenerated within 5 years of felling.

Was the feedstock used in the biomass removed from a forest as part of a pest/disease control measure or a salvage operation? Yes - Minority

Explanation: Natural disturbances occur at various scales, intensities and time frames across the supply base. It is not uncommon to find large areas in the boreal forest impacted by fires, pest outbreaks or windthrows. Salvage logging is prescribed when possible depending on accessibility and the rate at which the timber can be harvested. Not all affected stands are salvaged and for multiple reasons such as for conservation objectives and accessibility or lack thereof. Generally, salvage logging should occur within 2 years of the disturbance for the mills to be able to process the logs. In mixed-hardwood forests, large windthrow areas do occur but are less common than large disturbances found in the boreal forest. This is why salvage logging in this part of the supply base is extraordinary.

Feedstock

Reporting period from: 01 Jan 2022

Reporting period to: 31 Jul 2022

- a. **Total volume of Feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
- b. **Volume of primary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
- c. **List percentage of primary feedstock, by the following categories.**
 - Certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: 80% - 100%
 - Not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: 1% - 19%
- d. **List of all the species in primary feedstock, including scientific name:** Fagus grandifolia (American Beech); Acer saccharinum (Red Maple); Acer saccharum (Sugar Maple); Betula alleghaniensis (Yellow Birch); Betula papyrifera (White Birch); Populus balsamifera (Balsam Poplar); Tilia americana (American Basswood); Picea mariana (Black Spruce); Picea glauca (White Spruce); Pinus banksiana (Jack Pine); Larix decidua (Larch); Pinus strobus (White Pine); Pinus resinosa (Red Pine); Abies balsamea (Balsam Fir);
- e. **Is any of the feedstock used likely to have come from protected or threatened species?** No
 - Name of species: N/A
 - Biomass proportion, by weight, that is likely to be composed of that species (%): N/A
- f. **Hardwood (i.e. broadleaf trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):** 90,00
- g. **Softwood (i.e. coniferous trees): specify proportion of biomass from (%):** 10,00
- h. **Proportion of biomass composed of or derived from saw logs (%):** 0,00
- i. **Specify the local regulations or industry standards that define saw logs:** A hardwood sawlog must have a diameter of at least 24cm at breast height. ref. Classification des tiges d'essences feuillues, Normes techniques, MFFP (Feb. 2022)
- j. **Roundwood from final fellings from forests with > 40 yr rotation times - Average % volume of fellings delivered to BP (%):** 100,00
- k. **Volume of primary feedstock from primary forest:** 0 N/A
- l. **List percentage of primary feedstock from primary forest, by the following categories. Subdivide by SBP-approved Forest Management Schemes:**
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
 - Primary feedstock from primary forest not certified to an SBP-approved Forest Management Scheme: N/A
- m. **Volume of secondary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
 - Physical form of the feedstock: Chips, Sawdust
- n. **Volume of tertiary feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
 - Physical form of the feedstock: Other (specify)

Proportion of feedstock sourced per type of claim during the reporting period

| Feedstock type | Sourced by using Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) % | FSC % | PEFC % | SFI % |
|-----------------------|--|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Primary | 80,00 | 5,00 | 0,00 | 15,00 |
| Secondary | 75,00 | 25,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Tertiary | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |
| Other | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 | 0,00 |

3 Requirement for a Supply Base Evaluation

Is Supply Base Evaluation (SBE) is completed? Yes

BDLT implements findings of the SBP approved RRA for the province of Quebec for their supply sourced from the province. A certain proportion of forests and suppliers are not certified under recognized certification program. BDLT decided to modify the scope of its certificate to include the Quebec RRA and have access to a greater quantity of SBP Compliant feedstock.

4 Supply Base Evaluation

4.1 Scope

Feedstock types included in SBE: Primary, Secondary

SBP-endorsed Regional Risk Assessments used: Quebec, Canada

List of countries and regions included in the SBE:

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

1.6.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that feedstock is not sourced from areas where there are violations of traditional or civil rights.

Specific risk description:

Some First Nations, such the Abenaki in southern Quebec and the Mi'kmaq in the Bas-Saint-Laurent and Gaspésie regions, have signed agreements that recognize their hunting and fishing rights on private land. Organizations must ensure forest harvesting do not take place on private woodlots where First Nations publicly oppose forest harvesting.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.2.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them.

Specific risk description:

A specified risk in private forests to the extent that monitoring mechanisms need to be identified and, in the case of work not carried out under a program, the identification of potential impacts and the appropriate planning are uncertain.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.1.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that forests and other areas with high conservation value in the Supply Base are identified and mapped.

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with indicator.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.1.2 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to identify and address potential threats to forests and other areas with high conservation values from forest management activities.

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with indicator.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.2.4 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that biodiversity is protected (CPET S5b).

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

There is a specified risk that forest practices in these forests will not ensure protection and maintenance of biodiversity. Municipalities or RCMs may have by-laws governing such practices, but such by-laws are specific to each as are the resources deployed to check compliance by forest owners.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.2.5 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the process of residue removal minimises harm to ecosystems.

Specific risk description:

Research on forest biomass management for ongoing Canadian Forest Service projects focuses on forest biomass harvesting, including soil fertility mapping, site sensitivity to harvesting, and development and validation of indicators of site sensitivity to biomass harvesting. The integration of new requirements to minimize the impacts of the five main issues of forest biomass harvesting into harvesting prescriptions and activities is incomplete or unknown.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.2.6 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that negative impacts on ground water, surface water and water downstream from forest management are minimised (CPET S5b).

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with this indicator.

Country: Canada

Indicator with specified risk in the risk assessment used:

2.2.2 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is sourced from forests where management maintains or improves soil quality (CPET S5b)

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance are not necessarily visited, nor are forestry operations assessed by forestry professionals.

4.2 Justification

The evaluation was undertaken under the process of the RRA for Quebec. BDLT elaborated mitigation measures and procedures how to implement the measures and mitigate risks. Stakeholders were approached to consult BDLT procedures and mitigation measures and provide comments. BDLT is in the process of reviewing comments and adapt procedures if necessary.

4.3 Results of risk assessment and Supplier Verification Programme

The SBE refers to the results of the RRA which defined seven specified risks and no undetermined risks.

4.4 Conclusion

The SBE refers to the results and conclusions of the RRA.

5 Supply Base Evaluation process

See SBP Approved RRA Quebec.

6 Stakeholder consultation

Stakeholder consultation was undertaken in accordance with SBP requirements for the identification of specified risks and completion of the RRA for Québec.

Additional consultation was undertaken by BDLT to gather comments on the mitigation measures implemented for the risks identified in the RRA. The consultation process consist of outreach by phone and by email to stakeholders of the total region of supply of the organization. Over 600 emails were sent to municipal governments, academic institutions and civil organizations.

6.1 Response to stakeholder comments

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: Procedures and mitigation measures are not adapted to woodlot owners.

Response: BDLT will target contractors as they have more resources and are active on greater area than single woodlot owners. The latter will still be contacted depending on sampling.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: Will sawmill support BDLT in identifying forest origins of their supply?

Response: Sawmills enter in an agreement with BDLT confirming their commitment in sharing the origins of their wood supply with BDLT.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: What happens when a non-compliance is observed on a woodlot from where you plan or sourced wood from?

Response: BDLT reports the field visits and non compliances. It will assess non compliances to determine next steps and if feedstock can be considered SBP Compliant Biomass.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: Requiring a supplier agreement before every harvest operations will be impossible to implement.

Response: The harvest agreement is only used when logs are sourced directly from the forests with contractors. If they want to deliver logs to BDLT, they must sign an agreement before harvest operations have begun.

Description: Integrated Resource Management Stakeholder Committee

Comment: Procedures should add document and documentation references.

Response: The procedures were updated and now includes references.

Description: Integrated Resource Management Stakeholder Committee

Comment: How will affirmations from the woodlot owner or contractor be validated?

Response: BDLT will visit a sample of harvest areas based on criteria such as the level of quantities delivered to sawmill, area of influence of the contractor...

Description: Integrated Resource Management Stakeholder Committee

Comment: Favor precise terms instead of broad terms not easily implementable and verifiable.

Response: The form and procedures were modified ensuring terms are precise and verifiable.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: BDLT should prefer sourcing FSC certified wood.

Response: BDLT preference is to source certified wood fibre.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: It is unrealist to expect BDLT can monitor all log suppliers from private land.

Response: Where possible, BDLT signs a contract with log suppliers. Since there are very few log suppliers, BDLT is confident it will be able to monitor their practices.

Description: Marketing Board

Comment: A very large proportion of forest harvests on private land are regulated and monitored.

Response: BDLT acknowledges harvests on private woodlots must abide to regulations. However, the specified risk is to ensure practices are monitored and documented.

Description: ENGO

Comment: We are against harvest of forest biomass and supply should be close to mill.

Response: SBP allows for biomass harvesting under strict requirements. Energy consumption is reported in required SBP reports on an annual basis.

7 Mitigation measures

7.1 Mitigation measures

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Country: | Canada |
| Specified risk indicator: | 1.6.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that feedstock is not sourced from areas where there are violations of traditional or civil rights. |
| Specific risk description: | Some First Nations, such the Abenaki in southern Quebec and the Mi'kmaq in the Bas-Saint-Laurent and Gaspésie regions, have signed agreements that recognize their hunting and fishing rights on private land. Organizations must ensure forest harvesting do not take place on private woodlots where First Nations publicly oppose forest harvesting. |
| Mitigation measure: | No feedstock is sourced from sites where First Nations publicly oppose forest harvesting on private woodlots. |

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Country: | Canada |
| Specified risk indicator: | 2.2.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that feedstock is sourced from forests where there is appropriate assessment of impacts, and planning, implementation and monitoring to minimise them. |
| Specific risk description: | A specified risk in private forests to the extent that monitoring mechanisms need to be identified and, in the case of work not carried out under a program, the identification of potential impacts and the appropriate planning are uncertain. |
| Mitigation measure: | <p>Primary feedstock:</p> <p>Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.</p> <p>Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.</p> <p>Secondary feedstock:</p> <p>Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.</p> <p>Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.</p> |

Country: Canada

Specified risk indicator: 2.1.1 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that forests and other areas with high conservation value in the Supply Base are identified and mapped.

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with indicator.

Mitigation measure:

Primary feedstock:

Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.

Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.

Secondary feedstock:

Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.

Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.

Country: Canada

Specified risk indicator: 2.1.2 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to identify and address potential threats to forests and other areas with high conservation values from forest management activities.

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with indicator.

Mitigation measure:

Primary feedstock:

Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.

Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.

Secondary feedstock:

Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.

Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.

Country: Canada

Specified risk indicator: 2.2.4 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to ensure that biodiversity is protected (CPET S5b).

Specific risk description: Private forests without development assistance:

There is a specified risk that forest practices in these forests will not ensure protection and maintenance of biodiversity. Municipalities or RCMs may have by-laws governing such practices, but such by-laws are specific to each as are the resources deployed to check compliance by forest owners.

Mitigation measure: Primary feedstock:

Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.

Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.

Secondary feedstock:

Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.

Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.

Country: Canada

Specified risk indicator: 2.2.5 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that the process of residue removal minimises harm to ecosystems.

Specific risk description:

Research on forest biomass management for ongoing Canadian Forest Service projects focuses on forest biomass harvesting, including soil fertility mapping, site sensitivity to harvesting, and development and validation of indicators of site sensitivity to biomass harvesting. The integration of new requirements to minimize the impacts of the five main

issues of forest biomass harvesting into harvesting prescriptions and activities is incomplete or unknown.

Mitigation measure:

Primary feedstock:

Public lands: Ensure harvest blocks and prescriptions respect regulations of sites sensitive to nutrient loss.

Private woodlots: Ensure harvest blocks and prescriptions respect sites sensitive to nutrient loss.

Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.

Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.

Secondary feedstock:

Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.

Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.

Country:

Canada

Specified risk indicator:

2.2.6 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures to verify that negative impacts on ground water, surface water and water downstream from forest management are minimised (CPET S5b).

Specific risk description:

Private forests without development assistance:

Forest activities which do not benefit from the Programme de mise en valeur are not subject to professional foresters (ingénieur forestier) assistance and may prove difficult to demonstrate conformance with this indicator.

Mitigation measure:

Primary feedstock:

Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.

Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.

Secondary feedstock:

Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.

Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Country: | Canada |
| Specified risk indicator: | 2.2.2 The BP has implemented appropriate control systems and procedures for verifying that feedstock is sourced from forests where management maintains or improves soil quality (CPET S5b) |
| Specific risk description: | Private forests without development assistance are not necessarily visited, nor are forestry operations assessed by forestry professionals. |
| Mitigation measure: | <p>Primary feedstock:</p> <p>Obtain signed agreements from contractors prior to deliveries of primary feedstock sourced from private lands to BDLT. Document field forms completed either by contractor or by BDLT representatives confirming assessment of harvest operations.</p> <p>Verify woodlot localisation with mapped values and landscape planning.</p> <p>Secondary feedstock:</p> <p>Obtain list of woodlots where wood delivered to sawmill supplying by-products to BDLT was sourced.</p> <p>Field visits: Sample woodlots based on level of deliveries made or planned to the sawmill, based on type of supplier (ex. contractor vs woodlot owner). Complete field visit form.</p> |

7.2 Monitoring and outcomes

Monitoring is being implemented and documented. Sampling of individual woodlot owners was particularly difficult to organize. Owners do not necessarily live on or near the property. BDLT has already adapted their approach to focus sampling on contractors and more active wood suppliers for the sawmill. More efforts will have to be deployed to plan visits before harvest operations occur.

8 Detailed findings for indicators

Detailed findings for each Indicator are given in Annex 1 in case the Regional Risk Assessment (RRA) is not used.

Is RRA used? Yes

9 Review of report

9.1 Peer review

n/a

9.2 Public or additional reviews

n/a

10 Approval of report

| Approval of Supply Base Report by senior management | | | |
|---|--------------------|--|-------------|
| Report Prepared by: | Nicolas Blanchette | Certification and Procurement Specialist | 20 Dec 2022 |
| | Name | Title | Date |
| | | | |
| <p>The undersigned persons confirm that I/we are members of the organisation's senior management and do hereby affirm that the contents of this evaluation report were duly acknowledged by senior management as being accurate prior to approval and finalisation of the report.</p> | | | |
| Report approved by: | Yves Crits | General Manager | 20 Dec 2022 |
| | Name | Title | Date |

Annex 1: Detailed findings for Supply Base Evaluation indicators

N/A