

Sudbury Forest Management Unit  
2011-16 Independent Forest Audit  
Management Unit Action Plan

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# Sudbury Forest 2016 Independent Forest Audit Action Plan Submission Signature Page

## Prepared By:

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Date:

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# **Sudbury Forest 2016 Independent Forest Audit Action Plan Approval Signature Page**

**Approved By:**

Date:

*Corrinne Nelson*  
*Regional Director*  
Northeast Region

## Introduction

An Independent Forest Audit of the Sudbury Forest was conducted by KBM Resources Group during 2016. The audit covered planning and implementation of forest management activities from April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2016. The audit was one of two conducted during 2016 as part of a pilot of a new Independent Forest Audit Process and Protocol intended to better incorporate some principals of risk management.

The Sudbury Forest is managed under Sustainable Forest Licence (SFL) by the Vermilion Forest Management Company Limited (VFM) with MNRF administration delivered from the Sudbury District Office.

The IFA Report was accepted by the Forestry Futures Committee on February 6, 2017 and provided to VFM, MNRF Sudbury District and Northeast Region on February 7, 2017. The report contained 6 recommendations, including 3 which were directed to corporate MNRF. This Action Plan addresses the 3 recommendations which were directed to VFM and/or district MNRF.

# Recommendations

## **Recommendation #3:**

The audit team recommends Vermilion Forest Management immediately begin documenting FOP changes as required in the FMPM.

### **Action Required:**

1. VFM will ensure that any changes to FOP are documented in the Silviculture Ground Rule Update Layer (MU123\_11SGR00.E00) subsequent Annual Report for that season.
2. MNRF will review these FOP changes each year in the Annual Report.

### **Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. VFM
2. MNRF District Office

### **Deadline Date:**

1. November 15<sup>th</sup> each year.
2. December 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

### **Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Forest Information Portal
2. Annual Report Documentation

**Recommendation #4:**

The audit team recommends that VFM and MNRF continue to cooperate to strengthen their compliance programs.

**Action Required:**

1. A minimum of one annual meeting with MNRF and VFM to discuss operational issues and areas of inconsistency or where improvements can be made
2. A minimum of one annual field meeting between MNRF and VFM staff involved in forest compliance to develop and maintain consistency in observing and reporting on incompliance activities and operational issues.
3. A minimum of 5 joint inspections carried out annually
4. MNRF staff will support and attend VFM's Annual Spring Compliance Training sessions and both will investigate other joint training opportunities

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. SFL General Manager and MNRF Forest Technical Specialist
2. SFL General Manager and MNRF Forest Technical Specialist
3. SFL Compliance Inspectors and MNRF Compliance Inspectors
4. SFL General Manager and MNRF Forest Technical Specialist

**Deadline Date:**

1. March 31 of each year
2. June 30 of each year
3. March 31 of each year
4. May 15 of each year

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Minutes or notes from meeting
2. Minutes or notes from field visit
3. FOIP Inspection reports and Table AR-6 in the Annual Report
4. Minutes and notes from Annual Spring Compliance Training and list of attendees

**Recommendation #5:**

The audit team recommends that aggregate pit AGP25 be immediately remedied to mitigate the potential risks to public safety and to operate it in accordance with the required legal standards.

**Action Required:**

1. Licensee will immediately mitigate safety concerns identified at this site by the audit team.
2. VFM will inspect and document mitigation in FOIP report.
3. VFM and MNRF will monitor continuing operation to ensure activities are being carried out in accordance with the Sudbury Forest Management Plan.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. Overlapping Licensee
2. VFM Ltd.
3. VFM Ltd. and MNRF

**Deadline Date:**

1. September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016
2. October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016
3. As per schedule of inspections approved in each annual work schedule.

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. FOIP report completed in October 2016
2. FOIP report completed in October 2016
3. FOIP Report scheduled in annual work schedule.