

# Sapawe Forest

2012-2017 Independent Forest Audit

Management Unit Action Plan

# Sapawe Forest 2017 Independent Forest Audit Action Plan Submission Signature Page

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## Introduction

The final 2017 Sapawe Forest Independent Forest Audit (IFA) Report was accepted by the Forestry Futures Committee on November 1, 2017 for an IFA conducted by Arbex Forest Resource Consultants Ltd. for the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2017.

The 2017 Independent Forest Audit Process and Protocol (IFAPP) requires a Management Unit Action Plan be prepared in response to the audit recommendations.

A total of five findings were noted for the management unit. For each finding, this action plan provides a description of the actions required, the organization and position responsible, timelines for each of the action items, as well as the method of tracking progress for each action.

## Findings

### **Finding #1:**

The delivery of the FRI products was late.

### **Action Required:**

1. MNRF Regional Resources Planning Supervisor will continue to advocate for the Forest Resource Inventory to be delivered on time and within technical specifications.

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

1. MNRF - Regional Resources Planning Supervisor

### **Deadline Date:**

1. Ongoing

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

1. Email, meeting minutes of conversations with the Coordinator of the Forest Resource Inventory Unit.

**Finding #2:**

The slash management strategy of igniting linear rows of slash was ineffective in reducing the loss of productive forest land.

**Action Required:**

1. Linear slash piles will continue to be assessed for renewal success, and silviculture treatments will be identified in accordance with the FMP.
2. Operational procedures will be adjusted, as required, to minimize loss of productive land.
3. Expectations on slash pile burning outcomes (80% consumption of 80% of the piles), will be included in slash pile burning requests for quotation and/or contract commencing with the 2018 contract.
4. MNRF to increase forest operation inspections and monitoring as part of their compliance and Silviculture Effective Monitoring programs.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. Rainy Lake Tribal Resource Management Inc. (hereinafter referred to as RLTRMI)  
– Renewal and Operations Supervisors.
2. RLTRMI – Renewal and Operations Supervisors.
3. RLTRMI – Renewal and Operations Supervisors.
4. MNRF, Forestry Technical Specialist & Management Forester

**Deadline Date:**

1. Currently occurring and ongoing annually.
2. April, 2018 and ongoing
3. April, 2018 and ongoing
4. April, 2018 and ongoing

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. Records of regeneration assessment.
2. Record of operational procedure review/adjustment.
3. Revised request for quotation and/or contracts for 2018 slash pile burn program.
4. FOIP & SEM Report

**Finding #3:**

FMP operational standards for forestry aggregate pits were not consistently met.

**Action Required:**

1. Both MNRF and RLTRMI to increase forest operation inspections as a part of their compliance program

2. RLTRMI will review aggregate pit requirements with contractors.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF, Forestry Technical Specialist and RLTRMI – Operations Forester
2. RLTRMI – Operations Forester

**Deadline Date:**

1. April, 2018
2. May, 2018

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. FOIP, ACOP
2. Operations start-up sign off sheet.

**Finding #4:**

There is no evidence of broader MNRF District priority setting and risk assessment for the allocation of available resources in the Annual District Compliance Plan.

**Action Required:**

1. MNRF District will revise and update the District Compliance Plan and maintain an Annual Compliance Operations Plan (ACOP) in order to meet objectives within the Compliance strategy.
2. MNRF Annual Compliance targets will be assigned to each Forest Compliance Inspector within their Personal Development Plan (PDP)
3. MNRF Resource Management Supervisors will ensure new staff will receive compliance inspector mentoring to enable them to complete the forest compliance inspector certification course.
4. Hold regular meetings between MNRF Compliance Inspectors to discuss new/ongoing compliance issues.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF - Resources Management Supervisor, Integrated Resources Management Technical Specialist and Forestry Technical Specialist
2. MNRF - Resources/Operations Management Supervisor
3. MNRF - Resources/Operations Management Supervisor
4. MNRF - Compliance Inspectors

**Deadline Date:**

1. March 31, ongoing
2. April 1, 2018, ongoing
3. Fall of 2019, ongoing
4. April 1, 2018, ongoing

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. District Compliance Strategy/Annual Compliance Operations Plan
2. Personal Development Plan(s)
3. Forest Compliance Inspector certification
4. Meeting minutes

**Finding #5:**

MNRF failed to file compliance inspections in the FOIP database and had an inadequate compliance presence during the audit term.

**Action Required:**

1. MNRF District will revise and update the District Compliance Plan and maintain an Annual Compliance Operations Plan (ACOP) in order to meet objectives within the Compliance strategy.
2. MNRF Fort Frances district to discuss Forest Compliance coordination.
3. All MNRF District inspections will be entered into the Forest Operations Information Program as per the standards outlined in the 2014 Forestry Compliance Handbook.

**Organization and Position Responsible:**

1. MNRF - Resources Management Supervisor, Integrated Resources Management Technical Specialist and Forestry Technical Specialist
2. MNRF - Resources/Operations Management Supervisor
3. Compliance Inspectors

**Deadline Date:**

1. March 31, ongoing
2. April 1, 2018, ongoing
3. 2018, ongoing

**Method of Tracking Progress:**

1. District Compliance Strategy/Annual Compliance Operations Plan
2. District Compliance Strategy/Annual Compliance Operations Plan
3. Forest Operations Information Program