



THE LOUISIANA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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2026 Public Summary Report

Louisiana Forestry Association – ATFS-IMG-21; PwC-AFF-387

American Forest Foundation (AFF) 2021 Standards of Sustainability for Forest Certification V 2.2

American Tree Farm System® 2021 Independently Managed Group (IMG) Certification Standards V2.2

Project Scope and Objectives

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed an ATFS Independently Managed Group (IMG) Maintenance (A4) Assessment of the Louisiana Forestry Association's ATFS-IMG-21 program. The Alexandria, Louisiana head office, and two sites were assessed. The assessment team included Eric Gracey (On-site Lead Assessor) and Stephanie Lacey (Assessor in Training).

The primary objective of the assessment was to evaluate the Louisiana Forestry Association IMG's conformity with the AFF Standards of Sustainability and the ATFS IMG certification requirements (the "Standards").

Indicators

All the indicators in the AFF Standard and the ATFS IMG certification requirements were within the scope of the assessment.

Assessment Process

The assessment team reviewed appropriate documentation to assess policies and procedures, conducted on-site interviews and made on-site field observations to test implementation of the ATFS program requirements. The assessment consisted of 2 audit days that included a Head Office assessment and field assessments. Site visits for the first property: 2 thinning operations, 5 final harvests, and a variety of silvicultural practices including site prep burning, herbicide spray and planting activities. The site visits included: 2 thinning operations, 2 final harvests, a variety of silvicultural practices including site prep burning, herbicide spray and planting activities, 1 quail habitat restoration site and a Red-cockaded woodpecker reserve area.

Summary of Conformance and Good Management Practices

Interviews and documentation review of the Louisiana Forestry Association's ATFS-IMG governance procedures and processes supported that required elements of the ATFS IMG Certification Requirements were met. Review of management plans, internal monitoring

documentation, interviews with personnel and site visits of selected activities on Louisiana Forestry Association properties confirmed that management activities were conducted in accordance with written management plans and the AFF Standards of Sustainability.

Specific Good Management Practices observed included:

- The GIS system implemented within LFA landowners is sophisticated and allows employees to share information live regarding changes in land conditions
- One property observed is participating in thinning regimes to protect Red Cockaded Woodpeckers' habitat
- Support for logger certification programs in LA includes staff foresters being accredited loggers and staff members serving on the Boards of the State Commission.
- One property observed has created quail habitat restoration sites on their properties which are proving successful.

Summary of Findings

The following Opportunity for Improvement was identified during the assessment:

- The Group Manager requires members to conduct annual internal reviews and document the reviews using the ATFS Standards Checklist. While the Group Manager summarized these internal reviews in written form, an opportunity to utilize the ATFS Standards Checklist exists. Use of the checklist would provide evidence of a more systematic review of the Standards.

Conclusion

The Louisiana Forestry Association's ATFS-IMG-21 and enrolled Group Member properties continue to conform to the Standards. The certificate can be obtained by contacting Charles A. "Buck" Vandersteen of the Louisiana Forestry Association at 318-443-2558 or bvan@laforestry.com.