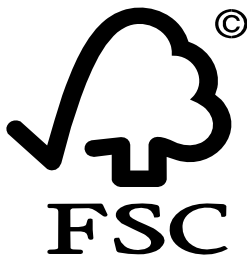




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FSC-ACC-004

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FM-02 January 2009



## Forest Management Certification Reassessment Report for:

Paul Smith's College  
In  
Paul Smiths, New York USA

Report Finalized:	January 4, 2010
Audit Dates:	November 16-17, 2009
Audit Team:	Robert Bryan
Certificate code(s):	SW-FM/COC-000089
Certificate issued:	January 11, 2005
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	3
1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE .....	4
1.1. Scope of the certificate.....	4
1.2. Exclusion of areas from the scope of certificate .....	4
2. ASSESSMENT PROCESS .....	5
2.1. Certification Standard Used .....	5
2.2. Assessment team and qualifications.....	5
2.3. Assessment schedule (including pre-assessment and stakeholder consultation) .....	5
2.4. Evaluation strategy.....	6
2.5. Stakeholder consultation process .....	6
3. ASSESSMENT FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS.....	8
3.1. Stakeholder comments received.....	8
3.2. Main strengths and weaknesses .....	9
3.3. Identified non-conformances and corrective actions .....	10
3.4. Observations.....	12
3.5. Certification Recommendation .....	12
4. CLIENT SPECIFIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION.....	14
APPENDIX I: Public summary of the management plan.....	16
APPENDIX II: FSC Reporting Form: Detailed FME information (Confidential) .....	18
APPENDIX III: Certification standard conformance checklist (confidential).....	22
APPENDIX IV: Chain-of-Custody Conformance (confidential).....	65
APPENDIX VI: List of all visited sites (confidential) .....	69
APPENDIX VII: Detailed list of stakeholders consulted (confidential).....	70

# INTRODUCTION

This report presents the findings of an independent certification assessment conducted by a team of specialists representing the SmartWood Program of the Rainforest Alliance. The purpose of the assessment was to evaluate the ecological, economic and social performance of *Paul Smith's College* forest management as defined by the Forest Stewardship Council.

This report contains four main sections of information and findings and several appendixes. The whole report plus appendixes I will become public information about the forest management operation that may be distributed by SmartWood or the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) to interested parties. The remainder of the appendixes are confidential, to be reviewed only by authorized SmartWood and FSC staff and reviewers bound by confidentiality agreements.

The purpose of the SmartWood program is to recognize conscientious land stewardship through independent evaluation and certification of forestry practices. Forestry operations that attain SmartWood certification may use the SmartWood and FSC labels for public marketing and advertising.

### Standard Conversions

1 mbf = 5.1 m<sup>3</sup>  
1 cord = 2.55 m<sup>3</sup>  
1 gallon (US) = 3.78541 liters

1 inch = 2.54 cm  
1 foot = 0.3048 m  
1 yard = 0.9144 m  
1 mile = 1.60934 km  
1 acre = 0.404687 hectares

1 pound = 0.4536 kg  
1 US ton = 907.185 kg  
1 UK ton = 1016.047 kg

# 1. SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE

## 1.1. Scope of the certificate

The scope of the certificate includes 12,285 acres (4,972 ha) of private forest land owned by Paul Smith’s College (PSC), also referred to below as the Forest Management Enterprise (FME). The property is located in the northern region of the Adirondack Park in Essex County and Franklin County New York. It is in multiple tracts managed as a single forest management unit (FMU) under a single forest management plan. Approximately 7,700 acres are subject to a conservation easement held by the State of New York. In addition to providing income to the college, the forest is used as an educational resource for PSC students. The forest is also used for non-commercial recreation including hiking, canoeing, cross country skiing, hunting, and fishing.

## 1.2. Exclusion of areas from the scope of certificate

<b>X</b>	<b>Applicability of FSC partial certification and excision policy</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	All forest land owned or managed by the FME is included in the scope of this evaluation.	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FME owns and/or has management involvement in other forest land/properties (forest management units) not being evaluated. <b>If yes, complete all sections below.</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Is any portion of the forest management unit (s) under evaluation for certification being excised from the scope of the evaluation? <b>If yes, complete all sections below.</b>	
Comments / Explanation for exclusion/excision:	PSC has timber rights to approximately 400 acres at the Town of Harrietstown, Adirondack Regional Airport. PSC does not control the remaining property rights and management is conducted in cooperation with the Town of Harrietstown it is not included in the scope.	
Control measures to prevent contamination	PSC’s CoC system prevents any mixing of certified and non-certified wood. When timber has been harvested on the excised tract the timber sale contract and trip tickets have not included the FSC claim and certificate number.	
<b>Other Forest area</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Size (ha)</b>
Adirondack Regional Airport	Harrietstown	162

## 2. ASSESSMENT PROCESS

### 2.1. Certification Standard Used

Forest Stewardship standard Used for assessment:	Forest Stewardship Standard for the Northeast Region (USA), VERSION V9.0
Local Adaptation: (if applicable)	N/A

### 2.2. Assessment team and qualifications

Auditor Name	Robert Bryan	Auditor role	Lead Auditor
Qualifications:	M.S. Forestry, University of Vermont (1984); B.S. Botany and Environmental Studies, University of Vermont (1976). Currently president of Forest Synthesis LLC. Previously employed as Forest and Wetlands Habitat Ecologist/Forester, Maine Audubon (1995 - 2008) Licensed Maine Forester #907. Member SAF and Forest Guild. Certification Experience: FSC auditor since 2003. Lead auditor (SmartWood), including over 30 FSC Forest Management certification audits and assessments in the Northeast, Lake States, and Appalachia, including family forests, investment and industrial forests, managed conservation forests, and public lands. Member of FSC Northeast Standards Committee 1997-2003 and FSC-US national standards advisory committee (2007-2008), peer review of SFI industrial forest certification in Northern Maine, member of state-level forest certification policy committees.		

### 2.3. Assessment schedule (including pre-assessment and stakeholder consultation)

Date	Location /main sites	Main activities
11-15-09	Off site	Preparation and Document review
11-16-09	Forest manager's office	Opening Meeting; review progress on outstanding Corrective Action Requests (CARs), recordkeeping, and management systems.
11-16-09	Tongue, Airport, Johnson Mountain, and Creighton tracts	Review recent completed and planned harvests for field conformance with FSC standards.
11-16-09	Paul Smith's College	Meeting with faculty stakeholders.
11-17-09	Currier tract	Review 2008 harvest for closeout procedures and other field conformance with FSC standards.
11-17-09	Paul Smiths College	Closing meeting; presentation of preliminary findings.
11-18-09 to 12-1-09	Off site	Stakeholder interviews, analysis of additional data provided by PSC

Total number of person days used for the assessment: **2.5**  
 = number of auditors participating **1** X number of days spent in preparation, on site and post site visit follow-up including stakeholder consultation **2.5**.

## 2.4. Evaluation strategy

Because this is not a group or multiple FMU certificate there is no minimum number of sites that must be visited to comply with FSC requirements. Criteria for site selection included sites with recent or ongoing activities, sites with potential risk (e.g. adjacent to water bodies), and a range of forest types, and protected areas. One site visited during the 2008 audit was revisited to evaluate closeout procedures.

### List of management aspects reviewed by assessment team:

Type of site	Sites visited	Type of site	Sites visited
Road construction	2	Bridges/stream crossing	5
Planned Harvest site	1	Wetland	5
Completed logging	5	Riparian zone	5
Felling by harvester	0	Natural regeneration	5
Shelterwood management	5	Wildlife management	1
Commercial thinning	5	Nature Reserve	1
Completed logging	5	Historical site	1
Skidding/Forwarding	0	Buffer zone	5
Local community	1		

## 2.5. Stakeholder consultation process

The purpose of the stakeholder consultation strategy for this assessment was threefold:

- 1) To ensure that the public is aware of and informed about the assessment process and its objectives;
- 2) To assist the field assessment team in identifying potential issues; and,
- 3) To provide diverse opportunities for the public to discuss and act upon the findings of the assessment.

This process is not just stakeholder notification, but wherever possible, detailed and meaningful stakeholder interaction. The process of stakeholder interaction does not stop after the field visits, or for that matter, after even a certification decision is made. SmartWood welcomes, at any time, comments on certified operations and such comments often provide a basis for field assessment.

In the case of PSC, prior to the actual assessment process, a public consultation stakeholder document was developed and distributed by email. SmartWood maintains a list of national and regional stakeholders who received this notification. Additionally, through input from PSC a list of local stakeholders was developed. Public announcements were distributed to everyone on these lists. These lists provided a basis for the auditor to select people for interviews (in person or by telephone or through email).

Stakeholder Type	Stakeholders	Stakeholders consulted
------------------	--------------	------------------------

<b>(NGO, government bodies, local inhabitant, contractor etc.)</b>	<b>Notified (#)</b>	<b>directly or provided input (#)</b>
PSC Faculty	5	3
Government Agencies	37	2
Adjacent Landowners	3	3
NGOs	100	3
Forest Industry	61	0
Academia	30	0
Others	28	0
Contractors	3	3

### 3. ASSESSMENT FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

#### 3.1. Stakeholder comments received

The stakeholder consultation activities were organized to give participants the opportunity to provide comments according to general categories of interest based upon the assessment criteria. The table below summarizes the issues identified by the assessment team with a brief discussion of each based upon specific interview and/or public meeting comments.

FSC Principle	Stakeholder comment	SmartWood response
<b>P1: FSC Commitment and Legal Compliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All taxes are paid.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed.</li> </ul>
<b>P2: Tenure &amp; Use Rights &amp; Responsibilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSC complies with the conservation easement held by NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (NY DEC). Questions regarding public access have been addressed.</li> <li>The Currier lot was donated to PSC for educational purposes, but it is used very little by students. Students do not mark timber for commercial timber harvests.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Currier lot has been visited annually for PSC forestry labs. Distance from the campus (1/2 hour) limits how frequently the property can be visited, as other college lands adjacent to the campus provide good teaching opportunities. Because of the cost of supervision of students, potential for inconsistency, and timing issues PSC does not use students on commercial harvest operations. Instead, PSC students mark and harvest study plots, a common practice at most forestry schools.</li> </ul>
<b>P3 – Indigenous Peoples’ Rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSC has sent a letter to the Mohawk Council of the Awkesasne requesting assistance in identifying any sites of significance to the tribe. No response has been received to date.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed.</li> </ul>
<b>P4: Community Relations &amp; Workers’ Rights</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSC has a fair contracting process. Foresters representing PSC have been very good to work with.</li> <li>When asked to move a planned landing near a residence PSC agreed.</li> <li>With one exception (see P6) neighbors and community members interviewed were positive about PSC and its forest management.</li> <li>In an area where PSC holds the timber rights on town property, the town representative reports</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>

	<p>that PSC has been very accommodating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been no issues with health and safety requirements for forest operations.</li> </ul>	
<b>P5: Benefits from the Forest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One stakeholder was concerned that PSC may have chipped large white pine logs at one harvest site. This stakeholder was only aware of two loads of pine logs of any size removed from the harvest site, implying that the remaining pine might have been chipped.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A review of forester tallies of trees marked for removal vs. mill scale slips for all pine logs over 22 inches harvested indicated that all large trees marked by the foresters were sold as sawlogs and not chipped. Mill scale sheets provided to the auditor indicated that 19 loads of pine logs were delivered to the purchasing sawmill from this site.</li> </ul>
<b>P6: Environmental Impact</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A public official in a local community had not heard anyone in town complaining about PSC management.</li> <li>One neighbor observed that damage to residual trees and skid trails was greater than what would be expected from a college with a forestry school.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The auditor observed generally low levels of damage to soils and residual trees. The damage described by the neighbor has been identified by other stakeholders in 2008 and was addressed in the 2008 FSC audit report. That report found that damage was within acceptable limits but that improvement was possible. The type of damage observed at this site has not been seen at other sites harvested since then, indicating that this is not a systemic issue with PSC's management. Detailed findings of this issue can be found in the 2008 audit report public summary at the SmartWood website.</li> </ul>
<b>P7: Management Plan</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PSC provides the management plan and submits current harvest plans to NY DEC for review as required by the conservation easement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>
<b>P8: Monitoring &amp; Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comments received</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>
<b>P9: Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forest</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No comments received</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>
<b>P10 - Plantations</b>	<p><i>Because PSC does not manage plantations as defined by the FSC, this Principle is not applicable.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None needed</li> </ul>

### 3.2. Main strengths and weaknesses

Principle	Strengths	Weaknesses
-----------	-----------	------------

<b>P1: FSC Commitment and Legal Compliance</b>	PSC complies with applicable laws and regulations.	None noted
<b>P2: Tenure &amp; Use Rights &amp; Responsibilities</b>	PSC complies with conservation easement requirements that provide public access and other benefits.	None noted
<b>P3 – Indigenous Peoples’ Rights</b>	PSC has contacted the state and a local tribe for assistance in identifying potential sites of archaeological significance.	None noted
<b>P4: Community Relations &amp; Workers’ Rights</b>	Forest workers are well-trained, fairly compensated, and follow appropriate safety practices. PSC has good relations with local communities.	None noted
<b>P5: Benefits from the Forest</b>	PSC is undertaking improvement harvests on the entire forest over a 20-year period to improve stand quality and structure.	None noted
<b>P6: Environmental Impact</b>	PSC does not use chemicals or exotic species and conforms with other requirements of the Principle.	None noted
<b>P7: Management Plan</b>	PSC combines an overarching forest management plan with detailed tract plans and individual operations plans.	None noted
<b>P8: Monitoring &amp; Assessment</b>	In addition to traditional forest inventory, PSC has developed a protocol to monitor forest habitat elements including downed wood and declining trees	None noted
<b>P9: Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forest</b>	PSC has completed a High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) assessment and found that there were none on the ownership.	None noted
<b>P10 - Plantations</b>	Not applicable	Not applicable
<b>Chain of custody</b>	PSC has developed a chain of custody system that conforms with the new SmartWood requirements.	None noted
<b>Group Certification Requirements</b>	Not applicable	

### 3.3. Identified non-conformances and corrective actions

A non-conformance is a discrepancy or gap identified during the assessment between some aspect of the FME’s management system and one or more of the requirements of the forest stewardship standard. Depending on the severity of the non-conformance the assessment team differentiates between major and minor non conformances.

- **Major non-conformance** results where there is a fundamental failure to achieve the objective of the relevant FSC criterion. A number of minor non-conformances against one

requirement may be considered to have a cumulative effect, and therefore be considered a major nonconformance.

- **Minor non-conformance** is a temporary, unusual or non-systematic non-conformance, for which the effects are limited.

Major non conformances must be corrected **before** the certificate can be issued. While minor non-conformances do not prohibit issuing the certificate, they must be addressed within the given timeframe to maintain the certificate.

Each non-conformance is addressed by the audit team by issuing a corrective action request (CAR) CARs are requirements that candidate operations must agree to, and which must be addressed, within the given timeframe of a maximum of one year period.

**Evaluation of Open CARs from the April 2009 Annual Audit:**

<b>CAR 01/09</b>		<b>Reference to Standard: Criteria and indicator: CoC 1.3, &amp; 3.1</b>
<b>Non-conformance</b>		Previously there were no markets demanding FSC material but PSC states that has started to change. PSC has not implemented a trip ticket system for sales of FSC certified wood. If there is a sale of certified wood PSC currently gives the FSC FM/CoC code information to the contractor on a sheet of paper. However, the contracts (i.e. sales documentation) do not have the FSC FM/CoC number or the claim of "FSC Pure."
<b>Major</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Minor</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Corrective Action Request:</b> PSC shall develop and implement a procedure to ensure non-certified wood or certified wood from another certificate are not mixed, and include the required certification information, including PSC's FM/CoC number and "FSC Pure," is included on sales and/or shipping documents for certified wood sales."		
<b>Timeline for conformance:</b>		Prior to next annual audit
<b>Evidence to close CAR:</b>		There is no risk of mixing prior to the wood leaving the landing. PSC has added to its timber sale contract that if the purchaser wishes to sell wood as certified the purchaser must make the necessary CoC arrangements with the mill that will be purchasing the wood as certified. In that case, the purchaser must use either the mill's trip ticket system or the PSC trip ticket system. If the purchaser elects to use the PSC trip tickets, the tickets have the FM/CoC number and the "FSC Pure" claim. In addition, when wood is sold as certified the contract has the certificate number and the "FSC Pure" claim.
<b>CAR Status:</b>		<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Follow-up Actions (if app.):</b>		None

<b>CAR 02/09</b>		<b>Reference to Standard: Criteria and indicator: CoC 5.1 and 5.6</b>
<b>Non-conformance</b>		PSC did not have SmartWood review the use of trademarks prior to use on the College forest management Web page. Inconsistencies in the required use of trademarks were observed on the Web page.
<b>Major</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Minor</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Corrective Action Request:</b> PSC shall have procedures in place and demonstrate submission of all FSC/Rainforest Alliance/SmartWood claims and trademark use to SmartWood for review and approval prior to use, including promotional use (Web pages and		

printed material), on-product use, and maintenance of correspondence regarding trademark use.	
<b>Timeline for conformance:</b>	Prior to next annual audit
<b>Evidence to close CAR:</b>	Because PSC is not a group manager and the land base is less than 10,000 ha, written procedures are not required. SmartWood approval of trademark use was reviewed during the re-assessment. Use of the trademarks was found to be in conformance with the CoC requirements.
<b>CAR Status:</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>Follow-up Actions (if app.):</b>	None

**New Corrective Actions Issued as a Result of this Reassessment:**

No new Corrective Actions were issued.

**3.4. Observations**

**Observations** are very minor problems or the early stages of a problem which does not of itself constitute a nonconformance, but which the auditor considers may lead to a future nonconformance if not addressed by the client. An observation may be a warning signal on a particular issue that, if not addressed, could turn into a CAR in the future (or a pre-condition or condition during a 5 year re-assessment).

No Observations were issued.

**3.5. Certification Recommendation**

Based on a thorough review of FME performance in the field, consultation with stakeholders, analysis of management documentation or other audit evidence the SmartWood assessment team recommends the following:

<b>Certification requirements met;</b> No CARs issued	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Certification requirements not met</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FME has demonstrated that their described system of management is being implemented consistently over the whole forest areas covered by the scope of the evaluation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:	
Subject to conformance with minor CARs (if applicable), FME's management system, if implemented as described, is capable of ensuring that all the requirements of the certification standards are met across the scope of the certificate	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Comments:	
Issues identified as controversial or hard to evaluate.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>

		No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Comments:		
Certificate type recommended:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest management and Chain of custody	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Forest management only (no CoC)	

Once certified, the FME will be audited annually on-site and required to remain in conformance with the FSC principles and criteria as further defined by regional guidelines developed by SmartWood or the FSC in order to maintain certification. The FME will also be required to fulfill the corrective actions as described below. Experts from SmartWood will review continued forest management performance and conformance with the corrective action requests described in this report, annually during scheduled and/or random audits.

## 4. CLIENT SPECIFIC BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 4.1 Ownership and land tenure description

The scope of the certificate includes 12,285 acres (4,972 ha) of private forest land owned by Paul Smith's College (PSC), also referred to below as the Forest Management Enterprise (FME). The property is located in the northern region of the Adirondack Park in Franklin County, New York. It is in multiple tracts managed as a single forest management unit (FMU) under a single forest management plan. Approximately 7,700 acres are subject to a conservation easement held by the State of New York. In addition to providing income to the college, the forest is used as an educational resource for PSC students. The forest also used for non-commercial recreation including hiking, canoeing, cross country skiing, hunting, and fishing.

### 4.2 Legislative and government regulatory context

Regulatory bodies include the individual township and county governments, the NY State Department of Environmental Conservation (NY DEC), and the Adirondack Park Agency (APA). The town and county jurisdiction relates primarily to planning, local zoning, and taxation, including property taxes. In the forestry context, NY DEC regulates stream crossings and has rules related to lopping of softwood slash for fire control. APA regulates clearcutting, wetland crossings, and harvesting near rivers and lakes. Federal environmental regulations (e.g., clean water act) are addressed through the NY DEC regulatory programs.

### 4.3 Environmental Context

PSC lands are within the temperate forest zone, including northern hardwood (beech-birch maple), spruce-fir forest, and white pine forest types. The predominant forest type is northern hardwood with a preponderance of sugar maple, American beech, red spruce, and aspen with a lesser representation of eastern hemlock, basswood, white pine, ash, black cherry, yellow birch, black birch, white birch, and red maple. Management type is natural forest (regeneration by seeding from existing overstory species). Some of the forest was formerly cleared for agriculture, while the remainder has been managed for timber production for over 100 years.

The PSC forest is dominated by intermediate to mature age classes. Over time PSC plans to create a balance of age classes that will promote both habitat diversity and timber production. Current management is based primarily on the shelterwood method, with some selection management along the edge of riparian zones. Successional dynamics resulting from timber management will provide fair representation of early successional, sapling pole, and maturing timber stages, with even- and uneven-aged structure. Late successional and old growth characteristics will develop in riparian management zones surrounding streams, wetlands, and lakes,

The forest is located within the Adirondack Park and is adjacent to large tracts of "Forever Wild" forest preserve lands. The size and extent of public ownership within the Adirondack Park make it one of the most significant forest areas in the eastern United States. The forest borders on an extensive network of lakes that provide important fish and wildlife habitat as well as wild forest recreational opportunities.

### 4.4 Socioeconomic Context

PSC manages land in Essex and Franklin counties in the heart of the Adirondack Park in upstate New York. These two counties have a combined population of about 88,000, with the PSC lands being located in the more remote corners of these counties. The timber and tourism industries are large employers in the immediate area.

By supplying timber to local mills and providing ecosystem services such as watershed protection, the land base has been an integral part of communities in which it is located for over 100 years. PSC's management plans and the conservation easement restrictions will help ensure that these benefits as well as continued public access for recreation will continue.

Consistent with national trends, the markets for pulp and lumber are becoming increasingly unreliable in the Adirondack region, resulting in a number of mill closures. With the recent downturn in the national economy resulting in declining housing starts and the pressures resulting from the globalization of paper markets, this trend is likely to continue into the foreseeable future. However, the prospect for high energy prices has stimulated new markets for wood that can be converted to energy, including wood pellets and biomass chips. This will help ensure a diversified market for timber and continued economic benefits from the land.

## APPENDIX I: Public summary of the management plan

<b>Main objectives of the forest management are:</b>	
Primary priority:	Sustainably manage the timber and ecological resources of the forest.
Secondary priority:	Provide a resource base for the educational mission of the College
Other priorities:	
Forest composition:	
Northern hardwoods, spruce-fir, mixed hardwood-softwood, white pine	
Description of Silvicultural system(s) used:	
Even aged management employing the shelterwood system, with seed tree regeneration with multi-aged systems where stand structure and species allow and/or indicated by other objectives (e.g. within riparian management zones).	
<b>Silvicultural system</b>	<b>% of forest under this management</b>
Even aged management	80 %
Clearcut (clearcut size range        )	%
Shelterwood	80 %
Uneven aged management	20 %
Individual tree selection	%
Group selection (group harvested of less than 1 ha in size)	20 %
Other types of management (explain)	%
Harvest methods and equipment used: Whole tree harvesting & cut to length operations that utilize a combination of feller bunchers, cable/grapple skidders, forwarder, slasher and chipper.	
Estimate of maximum sustainable yield for main commercial species:	½ cord per acre per year
Explanation of the assumptions (e.g. silvicultural) upon which estimates are based and reference to the source of data (e.g. inventory data, permanent sample plots, yield tables) upon which estimates are based upon.	
The maximum sustainable yield is based on historical harvest records and research sites for the Adirondack region. In practice PSC uses a modified form of area control to plan its annual harvest levels. Currently the type and rate of harvest levels is based on desired future conditions, not current growth rates. The current plan is to treat all stands with a single improvement harvest or thinning per stand over the 20 year period from 2000 to 2019. The primary goal of these harvests is to remove unacceptable growing stock and develop stands that are better suited in stocking, structure, and quality for long-term silviculture and value production. Secondary goals are to release existing regeneration where present or to initiate new regeneration where appropriate. Residual stocking levels are based on regional stocking guidelines.	
FME organizational structure and management responsibilities from senior management to operational level (how is management organized, who controls and takes decisions etc.)	
The V.P. for Capital Projects & Lands provides the overall direction to the College Forest Manager and the Consulting Forester.	
Structure of forest management units (division of forest area into manageable units etc.)	

606 stands comprising 29 compartments within 13 tracts.

Monitoring procedures (including yield of all forest products harvested, growth rates, regeneration, and forest condition, composition/changes in flora and fauna, environmental and social impacts of forest management, costs, productivity and efficiency of forest management)

Monitoring includes periodic forest inventory, aerial photography, pre- and post-harvest assessments, cover type mapping to track habitat types, accounting of all management revenues, expenses, listening to comments from forest stakeholders, and tracking the type and value of timber harvested. A Monitoring & Evaluation Plan can be found on the PSC Web Site. It includes both annual and periodic parameters. The evaluation of these parameters is continual over the course of conducting management activities annually.

Environmental protection measures, e.g. buffer zones for streams, riparian areas, etc., protection measures for Rare Threatened and Endangered Species and habitat

PSC consults with the New York DEC Natural Heritage Program regarding the potential presence of rare, threatened, or endangered species and rare natural communities. When encountered, appropriate management zones are adopted per DEC recommendations. Management of all riparian areas meets or exceeds the requirements of the Adirondack Park Agency and the NY Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water quality. Additional details are provided in the Forest Management Plan available on the PSC Web Site.

### **Representative Samples of Existing Ecosystems**

The systematic sampling scheme of the forest inventory was preceded by forest typing based on color infra-red aerial imagery and included not only major forest types, but wetlands, bogs, ponds, ledges, steep slopes, open areas and more. It was determined at the outset, along with the historical record, that the ecosystems within the landscape of the ownership were common place to this Adirondack Region.

The Northern hardwood, Spruce/fir, mixed wood and pine types found on Paul Smith's lands are ubiquitous in the Adirondacks. The PSC forest is located within the six million acre Adirondack Park, which is approximately 45% State-owned Forest Preserve land. Several tracks of Forest Preserve land are adjunct to the PSC lands. Given the scale and proximity of the Forest Preserve lands, PSC has concluded that all representative samples of regional ecosystems will be adequately represented and protected on the Forest Preserve lands

Paul Smith's College's overriding management of its forest resource is based on protecting any and all of the sensitive areas as shown on the Special Sites Map, continually monitoring for new sites, annually checking with the NYS Natural Heritage program for any additions to their Rare, Threatened and Endangered Species list and managing and growing the forest as the natural system that it is and for the species that have historically occupied these lands and the biodiversity they provide.