

CASESTUDY05

Resolute
Forest Management

WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE FSC

#05

FSC AT RISK

**RESOLUTE FOREST MANAGEMENT:
FSC MUST DO MORE TO PROTECT
INTACT FORESTS, SPECIES AT RISK AND
INDIGENOUS RIGHTS IN CANADA**

May 2014

GREENPEACE

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) was founded 20 years ago to promote environmentally sound, socially beneficial and economically viable management of the world's forests, without compromising their health for future generations. Unfortunately, this balance has not been achieved in all FSC-certified forests, particularly in large Intact Forest Landscapes (IFLs).

IFLs are the world's remaining large unfragmented forest areas undisturbed by roads and industrial development.¹ They have extremely important conservation value as they store a disproportionately high amount of global forest carbon, are large enough to sustain their biological diversity, and are critical for the livelihoods of forest-dependent peoples living within and adjacent to them. They are large enough to host both far-ranging top predators as well as other wildlife, and enable many plant and animal species to adapt to climate change. They also provide crucial ecosystem services such as regulating water and nutrient cycles.

The values and ecosystem services that IFLs provide are being exposed to severe and often irreversible damage when fragmented and/or destroyed through continued expansion of industrial logging and its infrastructure. Furthermore, nearly all deforestation begins with logging, road building and fragmentation. As the science on the extent of the vulnerabilities of IFL values to fragmentation is still limited, a precautionary forest management approach must assume the risk of severe or even irreversible damage in every fragmentation situation.

The FSC currently certifies logging that fragments and degrades IFLs, although its Principle 9 requires that management activities in High Conservation Value (HCV) forests maintain or enhance the attributes that define such forests. Unfortunately, the FSC still has no clear guidelines, steps and restrictions for forest management to ensure the maintenance of IFL values.

The FSC urgently needs to adopt clear thresholds for IFL protection to prevent FSC certification of forest management operations that are leading to IFL fragmentation and, ultimately, their loss. At the same time, the FSC should broaden its services to include certification of forest conservation and restoration, protected areas and ecosystem services (e.g. water sources/quality, soil stability, carbon storage), as well as economic opportunities for forest-dependent communities who rely on IFLs. This will help bolster FSC credibility as well as increase FSC's relevance in many regions.



image: Massive clearcuts in the habitat of threatened woodland caribou have been approved by FSC.
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OTHER CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS

Greenpeace does not believe that other forest certification systems, such as PEFC (The Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification), SFI (Sustainable Forestry Initiative) and MTCS (Malaysian Timber Certification Scheme), can ensure responsible forest management. While the FSC faces challenges, we believe that it contains a framework, as well as principles and criteria, that can guarantee socially and ecologically responsible practices if implemented correctly. The other systems lack robust requirements to protect social and ecological values.

image: The pristine Montagnes Blanches forest is one of the few remaining intact forest landscapes (IFLs) in Quebec's forest management zone, and provides critical habitat for the threatened woodland caribou.
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FSC CERTIFICATES SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN APPROVED

This case study highlights some of the formerly FSC-certified forest management operations of Resolute Forest Products that were found to be non-compliant with several FSC Principles and Criteria for well-managed forests. The operations presented a risk to the FSC's reputation and brand, and the FSC system responded by taking the unusual yet appropriate step of suspending the operations' certificates with effect from January 1, 2014. The responsible Certifying Body (CB) suspended the certificates due to unresolved conflict with indigenous peoples, the improper management of habitat of a species at risk and insufficient protection of old-growth forests and intact forests. However, shockingly, wood from these formerly certified areas is entering the FSC wood product stream as Controlled Wood (CW). This highlights serious problems regarding how compliance with FSC's Principle and Criteria forest management standard were originally assessed, a serious gap in FSC IFLs protection requirements, and with the way FSC's Controlled Wood is currently assessed.

Headquartered in Montreal, Canada, Resolute Forest Products (Resolute) – formerly known as AbitibiBowater – operates over 40 pulp, paper and saw mills in the US, Canada and South Korea. Resolute is the largest logging company in Canada by area, and was – before the certificate suspensions – the largest FSC-certified logging company in the world.² Resolute manages, owns, holds tenure rights, or operates in more than 22 million hectares of forests in Canada and the US, including large tracts of public land in Canada.³

Much of the wood that is used by Resolute's operations in the Canadian Boreal Forest is sourced from the most ecologically important forest areas in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.⁴ These areas are highly valuable for a number of reasons, but particularly because they are some of the last remaining IFLs in Canada's managed forest zone. Not only do these areas contain a plethora of ecological values, such as valuable carbon storage and important water and air filtration, they are also home to species at risk of extinction.

UNDER THREAT

HIGH CONSERVATION
VALUE FORESTS
RARE, THREATENED,
AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES'
RIGHTS

The woodland caribou is listed as threatened by the Canadian government, and logging and road building beyond a certain threshold is known to jeopardise its survival. Caribou are in dramatic decline due to industrial pressure across Canada's Boreal Forest, and yet Resolute continues to log in and source wood from some of the intact forests caribou rely on. Moreover, these intact forests are also important to several Indigenous communities who rely on their lands for their livelihoods and the maintenance of their traditional cultures. Some of these communities have opposed Resolute's logging in their traditional territories.






The two Forest Management (FM) certificates discussed in this case study cover 5.2 million hectares⁵ of largely intact forest in the biologically rich area known as the Montagnes Blanches "Endangered Forest".^{6,7} As logging in these areas threatens key values, FSC took an appropriate step and finally suspended certificates RA-FM/COC-004525 and RA-FM/COC-005956.⁸ Given the major problems identified in the latest round of audits and the lack of guidance from FSC on IFL protection, these areas should not have been certified in the first place. Resolute's management and logging activities have been found to fragment and degrade the intact forest areas of the region that woodland caribou rely on for their survival – IFLs are considered to be a High Conservation Value (HVC2) by FSC and critical habitat of the caribou (HCV 1 and 3). These values are required to be "maintained or enhanced" under FSC's Principle 9.⁹

Additionally, Resolute did not meet FSC's Principle 3 by failing to attain the free and informed consent of the Cree, for logging on their traditional territories and failing to establish appropriate protocols with the Innu First Nation, who are also affected by Resolute's logging activities.¹⁰ Both the Innu and the Cree have expressed serious concerns about management practices on their territories.

While the wood from the suspended certificate areas cannot be sold under the FSC Pure label, it is being mixed or matched with FSC certified wood and is potentially being sold under the FSC Mixed Sources label with the claim it is "from responsible sources". The Controlled Wood system was created to allow flexibility within the FSC system and support its growth, while screening out controversial wood that causes ecological damage and social conflict. The improper risk designation of this wood as being of low risk of being uncontrolled directly countermands FSC's very action of suspension and its Controlled Wood requirements.¹¹

Industrial-scale logging has heavily impacted this forest area, yet it still contains some of the most important remaining intact forests and habitat for woodland caribou. Indeed, the Montagnes Blanches region contains some of the most important intact forests and habitat for the threatened woodland caribou in the province of Quebec's entire managed forest zone.¹²

OVERLAP OF RESOLUTE'S SUSPENDED FSC CERTIFICATES WITH THE MONTAGNES BLANCHES "ENDANGERED FOREST"

-  Endangered Forest (Montagnes Blanches)
-  Northern limit of managed forests (i)
-  Woodland caribou habitat (2012) (ii)
-  Forest management units (i)
-  Intact forests (2010) (iii)

0 60 km

Data sources

(i) Gouvernement du Québec, Direction de la gestion des stocks forestiers. Répertoire des bénéficiaires de CAAF.

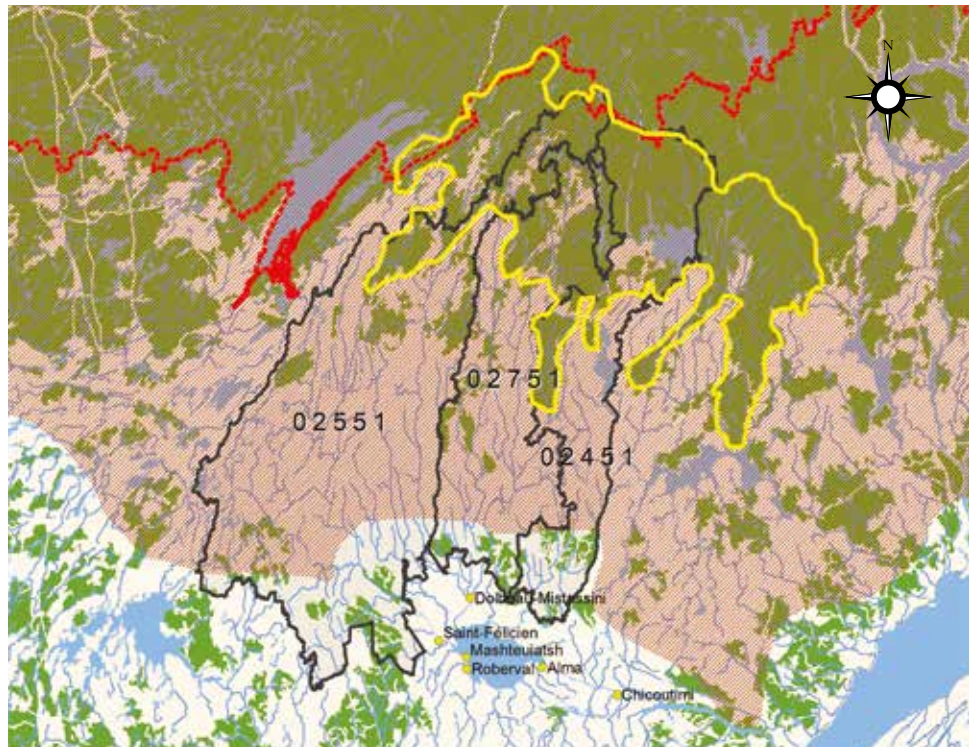
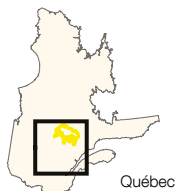
(ii) Environment Canada, June 2012

(iii) Global Forest Watch Canada, 2010. Canada's intact forest landscapes

Map produced by
Greenpeace Canada, May 2013

Datum: NAD 1983

Projection: Lambert conformal conic (Canada)



**RESOLUTE
FOREST
PRODUCTS
(TSX:RFP;
NYSE:RFP)**

Case study FSC
certificates (now suspended) #

RA-FM/COC-004525, RA-FM/COC-005956. Chain of Custody
certificates still getting wood for these areas:
QMI-COC-001267, QMI-COC-001484 and QMI-COC-0011351

FSC licence codes

FSC-C004009, FSC-C108950

Certifying body

Rainforest Alliance (FM) / QMI-SAI Global (CoC)

Country of operation

Canada, US, South Korea

Total FSC forest management
(FM) area certified

6,157,177 million hectares (after suspensions)*

Number of FSC chain-of-custody
(CoC) facilities

20 paper mills, 14 sawmills, 2 engineered wood facilities,
2 re-manufactured wood facilities, 3 sawmill partnerships in
Canada and the US

Areas covered by this case study

5.2 million hectares

FSC products

Pulp, paper, lumber

FSC complaint(s) on certificate(s) by
stakeholders

Yes

FSC corrective action requests filed





Yes

Public availability of permits, forest
management plans, detailed maps

Partially available

* According to FSC Canada and information available at info.fsc.org



-  Boreal caribou occurrence
-  Local caribou populations
-  Historic southern limit of woodland caribou
-  Northern limit of managed forests

Lambert Conformal Conic Projection
Standard Parallels 49°N and 77°N
Central Meridian 95°W / Origin: 49°N

0 800km

WOODLAND CARIBOU DECLINE IN CANADA

i) Boreal caribou occurrence:

The Canadian BEACONS Project (Boreal Ecosystems Analysis of Conservation Networks). <http://www.rr.ualberta.ca/Research/Beacons>

ii) Local populations developed from the following sources:

a. Environment Canada (2008). Scientific Review for the Identification of Critical Habitat for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*), Boreal Population, in Canada. August 2008. Ottawa: Environment Canada. 72 pp. plus 180 pp Appendices.

b. Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario's Woodland Caribou Conservation Plan. Available at: http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/fr/Business/Species/2ColumnSubPage/MNR_SAR_CRBOU_CNSRV_PLAN_FR.html

iii) Woodlands caribou historical range data derived from: Alberta Government, Sustainable Resource Management (2002).

iv) Northern limit of management boundaries. Global Forest Watch Canada. Available upon request from info@globalforestwatch.ca

image: The threatened woodland caribou is extremely sensitive to disturbances such as clearcuts and roads.
© Markus Mauthe / Greenpeace



RESOLUTE'S FAILURE TO SAFEGUARD KEY FOREST VALUES

The FSC's Principles and Criteria (P&C) and the country-specific National Boreal Standard require identification and protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species, areas of outstanding biodiversity value, and large intact forest landscapes.^{13,14} Companies are required to actively contribute to a robust protected areas system. For example, Indicator 6.2.4 of the National Boreal Standard requires forestry plans "to protect the habitat and populations of species at risk in the forest." Indicator 6.2.5 requires that, in the absence of adequate plans, the precautionary approach is used in management of the habitats of the relevant species at risk.¹⁵

The threatened woodland caribou are highly sensitive to logging activity and rely on mature IFLs for their survival. They are in decline across Canada as resource extraction severely disrupts their remaining habitat. In Canada, caribou have lost approximately 50% of their range in the last 100 years.¹⁶ The Scientific Advisory Group of the Woodland Caribou Recovery Task Force for Quebec has indicated that caribou populations will continue sliding towards extinction unless logging and other development ceases in areas caribou are known to use.¹⁷ Three caribou herds whose ranges overlap with Resolute's Montagnes Blanches operations are unlikely to survive beyond 50 years due to continuing habitat destruction.¹⁸

"To facilitate population recovery we recommend . . . Avoiding further development within areas known or presumed to be occupied by woodland caribou."

Woodland Caribou Recovery Task Forest Scientific Advisory Group – Nord Du Québec, 2012

In Resolute's three management units (FMUs) that overlap the Montagnes Blanches Endangered Forest and intact caribou habitat, only an average of 4.5% is legally protected.¹⁹ Most of the units' larger IFLs are still subject to logging and road building. Unfortunately, Resolute has only proposed small and fragmented candidate protected areas, which will only reach the provincial government's minimum political target of 12% protection. This target is not based on an independent science assessment, but rather on an outdated target based on 1992 Rio Earth Summit's commitments.

This is much below what peer-reviewed science dictates an ecosystem requires to maintain its core functions. In fact, a review of 159 scientific studies suggests that 30-50% of a region must be protected for ecosystem functions to be maintained,²⁰ and additional buffer areas are needed in order to reduce risk to the ecosystem and its values and services. Moreover, a recent study of the Boreal Forest indicates that 50% should be protected from development.²¹ A large part of the remaining IFLs in this region must be protected in order for the ecosystem to remain functional.

Between 2001 and 2010, more than 280,000 hectares of previously intact forest were degraded and fragmented by logging, road building and other development in the Montagnes Blanches Endangered Forest by various logging companies, including Resolute. If the current pace of development continues, all large IFLs will be gone from the Montagnes Blanches Endangered Forest within 45 years.²² The company has publicly lobbied the Quebec government to make additional wood supply available for harvest, which would, in Greenpeace's opinion, impede increasing permanent protection.²³

Unfortunately, Resolute was granted its first FSC certificate in this region in 2009 despite these shortcomings. Greenpeace and others have expressed concerns about the ecological damage that has been caused by the company's forest operations since the certificates were granted. Greenpeace has for many years implored FSC to develop clear management guidance for the protection of HCVs as its international and national standards are lacking what is needed, especially for HCV2 IFL protection.

In January 2013 Greenpeace Canada filed an official complaint with Resolute's CB - Rainforest Alliance. Rainforest Alliance acknowledged that caribou are in decline, that the latest science shows that additional logging in intact forest will further imperil the species, and stated that the issue would be addressed in the 2013 audits. Audit findings for these two certificates were released in December 2013 concluding that Resolute's logging operations were not consistent with federal guidelines for caribou conservation, which recommend that industrial disturbance levels not exceed 35% in caribou habitat.

“The levels of current and anticipated disturbance represent a high risk to the extirpation of caribou herds that occupy certified forest, according to findings of woodland caribou ecology experts; The 2013-2014 annual work program includes several harvesting sites and construction of new roads in large un-fragmented forests that are key habitats for maintaining the woodland caribou, particularly in a context where a large part of its range is fragmented. The applicant has already carried out the work in some of these territories.”

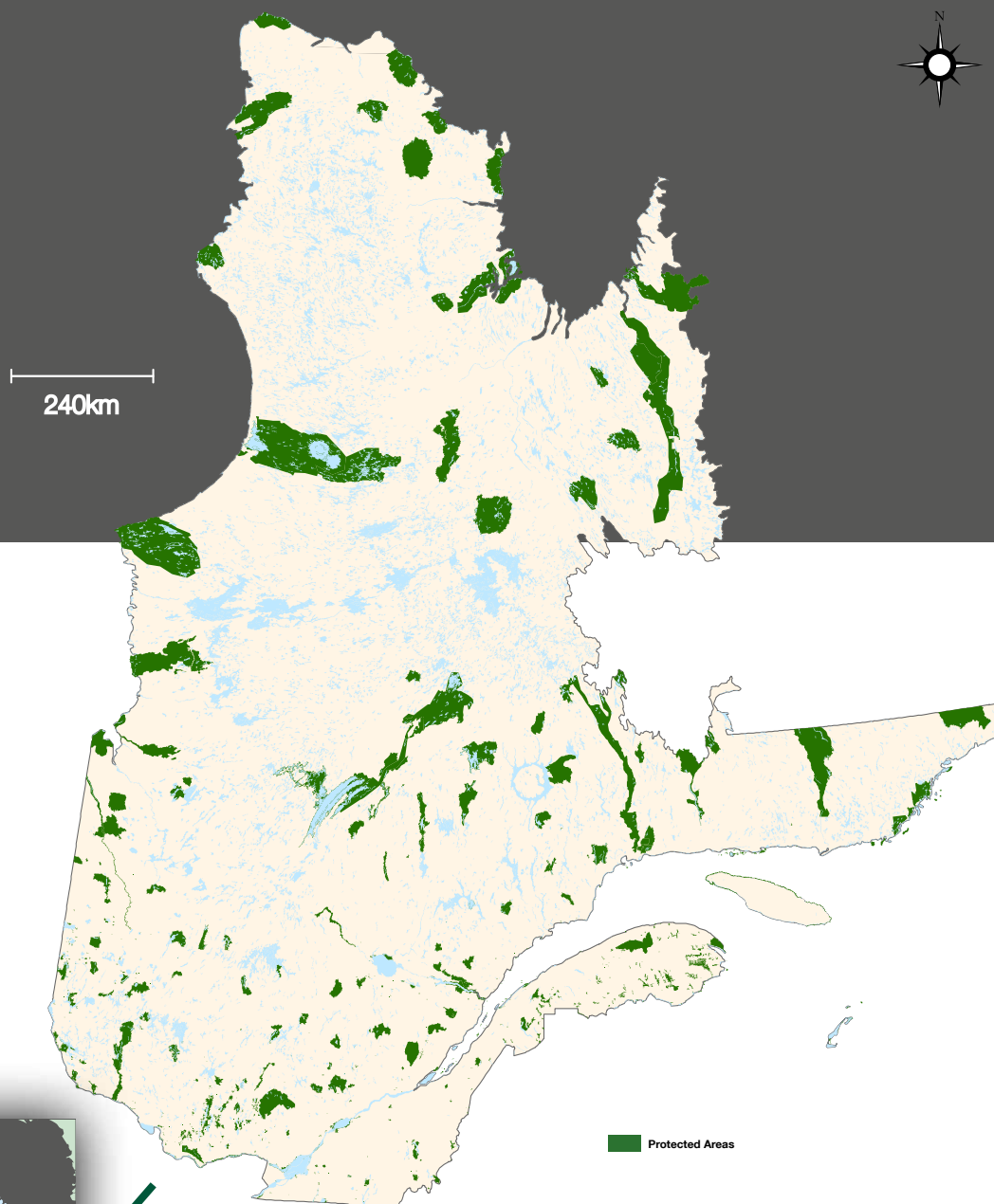
Rainforest Alliance's 2013 annual audit of certificate RA-FM/COC-004525²⁴

In addition, the auditors found that the company was risking over-harvesting, failing to conserve sufficient levels of old-growth forests, failing to conduct proper monitoring of HCVs, and that approaches for conserving a key HCV – woodland caribou – lacked the precautionary approach, which is a key principle of FSC.²⁵ All of these failings pose serious risks to the integrity of this important intact forest.

As a result of this non-compliance with the FSC National Boreal Standard, and other major failings related to Principle 3, these certificates were officially suspended on January 1, 2014.

PROTECTED AREAS IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

map: The province of Quebec does not have enough protected areas to conserve ecological functions, or to meet the requirements of large mammals.



Data sources

Global Forest Watch, July 2010 ²⁶
 Datum: NAD 1983
 Projection: Lambert conformal
 conic (Québec)

NB. This map does not show the biological refuges, very small areas that are not perceptible at this scale. Moreover, the Assinica Heritage Park is not shown on this map.

image:

Resolute's operations are negatively impacting the Cree's traplines and wildlife habitat, which are inextricably tied to the Cree's traditional rights and culture.

© Greenpeace



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

“The legal and customary rights of Indigenous peoples to own, use and manage their lands, territories, and resources shall be recognized and respected.”

– FSC National Boreal Standard²⁷

The Grand Council of the Cree (Eeyou Istchee), a representative body for nine Cree First Nations communities, has asserted that Resolute's logging in Forest Management Unit (FMU) 25-51 (covered by certificate RA-FM/COC- 005956) violates Principle 3 of the National Boreal Standard.²⁸ The Cree have not provided their free and informed consent (FPIC) to Resolute's logging operations and, in the meantime, Resolute's operations are negatively impacting the Cree's traplines and wildlife habitat, which are inextricably tied to the Cree's traditional rights and culture.²⁹

Rainforest Alliance issued three major CARs in its 2013 verification audit, which contributed to the suspension of certificate RA-FM/COC-005956 based on Resolute violating Principle 3 and failing to resolve conflict with the Cree Nations.³⁰ At that time, Rainforest Alliance also found that Resolute had failed to establish a dispute resolution process with another First Nation, the Mashteuiatsh Innu, for certificate RA-FM/COC-004525, which was also suspended.³¹

On December 18, 2013, the Grand Council of the Cree filed a C\$13 million lawsuit against the Quebec provincial government for allowing Resolute to engage in what it calls “illegal logging” on its traditional territory.³²

image: Logs from Resolute's suspended FSC certificates in the Montagnes Blanches. Resolute's management plans did not adequately protect the threatened woodland caribou. However, this wood is allowed to enter the FSC system as Controlled Wood.
© Greenpeace



FSC MUST CLOSE THE GAP BETWEEN IFL PROTECTION PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE

While Greenpeace commends FSC for suspending these controversial certificates, it is disappointing that Resolute was able to achieve certification in the first place.

FSC forest management certification requires that high conservation value forests such as large intact forests and habitat for species at risk should be maintained or enhanced according to its Principle 9. Although the FSC Canadian Boreal Standard has enabling language to protect IFLs it is not specific enough to ensure the protection of such HCV forests. Moreover, this situation is compounded by the fact FSC at the international level has no clear guidelines, steps and restrictions for forest management to ensure the maintenance and protection of IFL values. This lack of guidance is impacting how HCVs are approached/managed in other relevant FSC standards and policies, such as in national forest management standards and the FSC's Controlled Wood standards. The FSC urgently needs to adopt clear thresholds for IFL protection to prevent FSC certification of industrial logging leading to their fragmentation and ultimately their destruction.

FSC ALLOWS CONTROVERSIAL WOOD TO CONTINUE TO ENTER ITS SYSTEM

Despite Rainforest Alliance taking action to address some of these HCV and Indigenous rights issues by suspending Resolute's FSC forest management certificates, it is absurd that the FSC is still willing to allow wood from management practices that do not meet its primary standards and, which we believe contravenes its controlled wood due diligence standard to be managed as controlled wood.

The FSC Standard for Company Evaluation of FSC Controlled Wood (FSC-STD-40-005) states that "wood harvested in violation of traditional and civil rights" or "wood harvested in forests where high conservation values are threatened by management activities" must be avoided. With numerous and fundamental failings of related FSC Principles and Criteria, it is clear that these operations fall within these two prohibited categories: the threatened woodland caribou are at risk of extirpation in these forest tenures and operations do not have the consent of affected First Nation communities. This wood is not controlled.

The FSC should prevent any wood from operations that have been suspended or terminated when the suspensions or terminations result from operational failings that overlap with controlled wood categories.

FSC QUALITY CONTROL, MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT

These Resolute certificates have been controversial since they were granted. It is troubling that several complaints by multiple parties were required to have the FSC system address the serious problems and that even now the certificates are suspended, the wood being harvested is still entering the FSC system.

CBs should restrict the awarding of certificates where fundamental failings, such as ongoing damage to habitat of species at risk, inadequate protection of old-growth and intact forests and lack of support from Indigenous communities, appear to exist as was the case when certification was considered for these operations several years ago. Further, the FSC should immediately clarify its requirements for HCV and particularly IFL protection. It is preferable to have these issues addressed prior to certification rather than as a result of formal complaints and appeals, risking the reputation of the FSC brand and system. While the suspensions do show that the FSC is able to respond to controversial certificates and make use of the best available science in making decisions about which operations maintain certification, the FSC should not allow this wood to be classified as Controlled Wood.

KEEPING THE FSC CREDIBLE

Along with other FSC members across its chambers, Greenpeace is working to achieve the following key improvements in FSC operations and procedures so that the environmental and social values of forests are maintained under the FSC seal of approval.

FSC members, certification bodies, stakeholders and consumers should hold the FSC accountable to ensure its standards and policies are strengthened, consistently applied and met to ensure that the ecological and social values of forests managed under the FSC seal of approval are maintained.

Until adequate global protection of IFLs is achieved:

- 1) The FSC should only certify logging operations in HCV2/IFL areas in a forest region after:
 - a) A comprehensive and representative protected area network has been established;
 - b) Priority has been given to small-scale and low-impact community forest use wherever appropriate; and
 - c) The core area of the IFL is protected and in the buffer around the core road building and other fragmentation impacts are avoided or minimised so that IFL values (see introduction) are not being harmed.
- 2) FSC must broaden its services to include more forest conservation, protected areas and ecosystem services (e.g., water, soil stability, carbon storage) certification and promote restoration of degraded IFLs. Options to support HCV2 and IFL protection such as reduced certification fees and/or a fund that supports HCV2 protection should also be considered.

We urge FSC members, stakeholders and consumers to call on the FSC to increase its role in IFL protection. By doing so the FSC will broaden its reach and influence, enable the FSC to embrace a full range of forest conservation management measures, continue to be the leader in global forest certification, and be a label consumers can trust.

To review Greenpeace's complete set of recommendations for strengthening the FSC system and the FSC's progress, please visit:
www.greenpeace.org/international/FSC-at-risk

REFERENCES

- 1 Approximately 25% of the current global forest cover is made up of Intact Forests Landscapes (IFLs). The technical definition of an IFL is defined as a territory within today's global extent of forest cover which contains forest and non-forest ecosystems minimally influenced by human economic activity, with an area of at least 500 km² (50,000 ha) and a minimal width of 10 km (measured as the diameter of a circle that is entirely inscribed within the boundaries of the territory).
<http://intactforests.org/>
- 2 Resolute Forest Products. <http://www.resolutefp.com>
Information linked to the French company title 'PF Résolu Canada Inc.' at <http://info.fsc.org/>
- 3 Resolute Forest Products http://www.resolutefp.com/Sustainability/Forestry_and_Fiber_Sourcing/
- 4 For an overview of some of these forest regions, visit: <http://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/campaigns/forests/boreal/Learn-about/>
- 5 Although those two certificates cover four FM units (5.7 million hectares), this case study only covers the three FM units that overlap with the caribou habitat range and the Montagnes Blanches "Endangered Forest." FMU 22-51 is excluded from our analysis as the area is outside caribou range and has been heavily fragmented by past logging operations in the region by Resolute and other logging companies.
- 6 3,199,474 ha certified (Lac St.Jean) certificate # 005956, 2,474,572 ha certified (Mistassini) certificate #004525. These cover tenures # 24-51 and 27-51; 22-51, 25-51 respectively. The Montagnes Blanches "Endangered Forest" encompasses a smaller area than what is covered by these two certificates.
<http://info.fsc.org>
- 7 "Endangered Forests" are defined as forests of high ecological value, currently threatened by development, that require urgent protection to maintain their vulnerable values. The term is recognised in the procurement policies of many corporate consumers of forest products, who seek to avoid sourcing from "Endangered Forests".
Canada's "Endangered Forests": <http://www.greenpeace.org/canada/en/campaigns/forests/boreal/Learn-about/>
- 8 Resolute had accumulated over 50 Corrective Action Requests since it first acquired the two certificates. When several of these remained outstanding, the Certification Body suspended the two certificates for failure to comply with the National Boreal Standard. See Forest Management Certification Assessment Report for AbitibiBowater Inc. FMUs 024-51 and 027-51 in Dolbeau-Mistassini, Québec, Canada, SW-FM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, 26 November 2009 (translated English version). Corrective Action Request Verification Report, AbitibiBowater Inc., FMUs 024-51 and 027-51, SW-FM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, December 2009 (translated English version). Public Summary Report for Forest Management, 2010 Annual Audit Report for AbiBow Canada Inc., Mistassini-Peribonka in St-Felicien, Quebec, SWFM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, December, 13 April 2011 (translated English version). Public Summary Report for Forest Management, 2011 Annual Audit Report for AbiBow Canada Inc., Mistassini-Peribonka in St-Felicien, Quebec, SW-FM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, 22 November 2011 (translated English version). Corrective Action Verification Audit Report, AbiBow Canada Inc., SW-FM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, 2 April 2012 (translated English version). Public Summary Report for Forest Management, 2012 Annual Audit Report for PF Résolu Canada Inc., Mistassini-Peribonka in Dolbeau-Mistassini, Quebec, SW-FM/COC-004525, Rainforest Alliance, 22 November 2012 (translated English version). Public Summary Report for Forest Management, Produits forestiers Résolu (Lac St-Jean) , FMUs 022-51 and 025-51, RA-FM/COC-005956, Rainforest Alliance, July 28, 2013 (English translation).
Resolute's FSC certificate for the Black Spruce Dog River-Matawin Forest (RA-FM/COC005587) was also suspended in December 2013 for failing to uphold Principle 6 related to the creation of protected areas. This forest supplies Resolute's Thunder Bay mill complex in northwestern Ontario.
- 9 <https://ic.fsc.org/principles-and-criteria.34.htm>
- 10 Rainforest Alliance, RA-FM/COC-005956 Corrective Action Verification Report, 11 December 2013, pp. 13-17 See full report (in French) here: <http://fsc.force.com/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P4000000IRBfiEAH>
Rainforest Alliance, Mistassini-Peribonka 2013 Annual Audit, 11 December, 2013. See full report (in French) here: <http://fsc.force.com/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P4000000IRG8xEAH> , p.8
- 11 FSC Standard for Company Evaluation of FSC Controlled Wood, FSC-STD-40-005 (V2-1) EN, October 4, 2006. <https://ic.fsc.org/standards.340.htm>

- 12 See Environment Canada's species-at-risk registry - http://www.sararegistry.gc.ca/species/speciesDetails_e.cfm?sid=636
- 13 FSC international Principles and Criteria - <https://ic.fsc.org/principles-and-criteria.34.htm>.
FSC Canada, National Boreal Standard, 6 August 2004 <https://ca.fsc.org/boreal-standard.203.htm>
- 14 <http://www.intactforests.org/>
- 15 FSC Canada, National Boreal Standard, 6 August 2004 <https://ca.fsc.org/boreal-standard.203.htm>
- 16 For a comprehensive review of the habitat requirements of woodland caribou and their historic and current habitat conditions, see Environment Canada. 2012. Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*), Boreal population, in Canada.
- 17 Rudolph T *et al* (2012). Status of Woodland Caribou, (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*), Boreal Ecotype, in Northern Quebec. Report Presented to MNR and the Grand Council of the Crees.
- 18 Ibid, p. 39 Environment Canada (2012). Recovery Strategy for the Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus caribou*), Boreal population, in Canada, p. 69
- 19 MDDEFP (2012). Portrait du réseau d'aires protégées- Analyse de carence écorégionale, Région du Saguenay-Lac St-Jean. p. 76 http://www.creslsj.ca/data/images/Documents_autres/Fiches_Analyse_Carences_SLSJ_Nov2012.pdf. AbitibiBowater (March 2010). Synthèse Plan général d'aménagement forestier PGAF 2008-2013. [http://www.pfresolu.com/uploadedFiles/Menus/Sustainability/Synth%C3%A8se%20du%20PGAF%202008-2013%20TFD%20Mistassini-P%C3%A9ribonka\(1\).pdf](http://www.pfresolu.com/uploadedFiles/Menus/Sustainability/Synth%C3%A8se%20du%20PGAF%202008-2013%20TFD%20Mistassini-P%C3%A9ribonka(1).pdf)
- 20 Svancara LK, Brannon JREE, Scott M, Groves CR, Noss RF & Pressey RL (2005). Policy-driven versus Evidence-based Conservation: A Review of Political Targets and Biological Needs. *BioScience*. 55(11): p. 989-995).
- 21 International Boreal Science Panel, "Preserving the World's Last Great Forest is Possible" (2013). <http://borealscience.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/conserving-last-great-forests1.pdf>
- 22 According to analysis by Global Forest Watch Canada of intact forest landscapes in the Montagnes Blanches "Endangered Forest" based on Canada's Intact Forest Landscapes (Global Forest Watch Canada, 2010) and the Anthropogenic disturbance footprint within boreal caribou ranges across Canada - As interpreted from 2008-2010 Landsat satellite imagery (Environment Canada, 2011).
- 23 Resolute Forest Products ran a series of advertisements in Quebec in 2012 demanding that the government allocate the company additional wood for harvest. The Quebec government responded to the advertisements. <http://www.radio-canada.ca/regions/saguenay-lac/2012/01/24/004-sergesimard-pfr.shtml>
- 24 Rainforest Alliance, Mistassini-Peribonka 2013 Annual Audit, 11 December, 2013. See full report (in French) here: <http://fsc.force.com/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P4000000IRG8xEAH> , p.15
- 25 Rainforest Alliance, Mistassini-Peribonka 2013 Annual Audit, 11 December, 2013, pp.8-23 and Rainforest Alliance, RA-FM/COC-005956 Corrective Action Verification Report, 11 December 20013, pp.9-21
- 26 New small protected areas have been created in Quebec since 2010, however none are within the case study area.
- 27 Forest Stewardship Council - Canada. National Boreal Standard, 2004, p. 18. Vision, Mission and Values. <https://ca.fsc.org/download.national-boreal-standard.11.pdf>
- 28 <http://www.gcc.ca/newsarticle.php?id=308>
- 29 Ibid.
- 30 Rainforest Alliance, RA-FM/COC-005956 Corrective Action Verification Report, 11 December 2013.pp, 13-17 See full report (in French) here: <http://fsc.force.com/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P4000000IRBfiEAH>
- 31 Rainforest Alliance, Mistassini-Peribonka 2013 Annual Audit, 11 December, 2013. See full report (in French) here: <http://fsc.force.com/servlet/servlet.FileDownload?file=00P4000000IRG8xEAH> , p.8
- 32 <http://www.gcc.ca/newsarticle.php?id=349>



image: The threatened woodland caribou is extremely sensitive to disturbances such as clearcuts and roads.
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