



Supply Base Report:

La Crete Sawmills Ltd.

Second Surveillance Audit

Sustainable Biomass Program
sbp-cert.org



Completed in accordance with the Supply Base Report Template Version 2.2 and SBP Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 (REDIII)

For further information on the SBP Framework and to view the full set of documentation see www.sbp-cert.org

Document history

Version 1.0	Published 26 March 2015
Version 2.0	Published 10 August 2023
Version 2.1	Published 15 April 2024
Version 2.2	Published 21 May 2025

© Copyright Sustainable Biomass Program Limited 2025

Table of contents

1 Overview

2 Description of the Biomass Producer and the Supply Base

- 2.1 Description of the company
- 2.2 Detailed description of the Supply Base
- 2.3 Feedstock information

3 Supply Base Risk Assessments and Risk Management Measures

- 3.1 Summary of the Supply Base Evaluation
- 3.2 Conflicts with applicable national and sub-national legislation
- 3.3 Risk Management Measures

4 Stakeholder engagement

- 4.1 General description
- 4.2 Response to stakeholder comments

5 Report updates and approval

Annex 1: Detailed findings for Supply Base Evaluation indicators

Annex 2: EU RED Supply Base Evaluation

Annex 3: SBP Processing residues and/or Post-consumer feedstock requirements

Annex 4: EU RED detailed findings for Trees Outside Forest (TOF) feedstock

1 Overview

Producer name:	La Crete Sawmills Ltd.
Producer address:	Box 1090, 15121 TWP RD 1055, T0H 2H0 La Crete, Canada
SBP Certificate Code:	SBP-07-18
Geographic position:	58.148458, -116.352939
Primary contact:	Aaron Doepel, +1 780 928 2292 or +1 780 926 0112, aaron.d@lacretesawmills.com
Company website:	http://lacretesawmills.com
Date report finalised:	16 Jul 2025
SBR reporting period from:	01 May 2024
SBR reporting period to:	30 Apr 2025
Name of the Certification Body:	Preferred by Nature OÜ
Certification Body Approval date:	28 Oct 2025
SBP Standard(s) used:	SBP Standard 1: Feedstock Compliance v2.0, SBP Standard 2: Feedstock Verification v2.0, SBP Standard 4: Chain of Custody v2.0, SBP Standard 5: Collection and Communication of Data v2.0, Instruction Document 5E: Collection and Communication of Energy and Carbon data. v2.1, Instruction Document EU RED: Bridging Requirements for Meeting the Directive EU/2023/2413 v2.0
Feedstock origin (countries)	Canada (8.706)
Weblink to Standard(s) used:	https://sbp-cert.org/documents/standards-documents/standards

2 Description of the Biomass Producer and the Supply Base

2.1 Description of the company

La Crete Sawmills Ltd. is located in Northwest Alberta where most of the forest activities are centered in La Crete and High Level. Its sawmill and pellet mill are certified PEFC and SBP. Aside from La Crete Sawmills Ltd., we find Norbord inc., Evergreen Lumber, Tolko Industries, Mercer Peace River Pulp and Crestview Mills. All fibre supplied to La Crete Sawmills Ltd. is sourced from the north western portion of the Province of Alberta, Canada (see supply base map). Other forest companies operating in the Tolko - La Crete FMA are Askee Development Corporation., NDEH Limited Partnership and West Fraser. Approximately 94% of the supply base is on public land of which 86% is certified under the SFI certification program. The rest of the supply base is uncertified of which 8% is public and 6% is private land.

Products included in the scope of SBP Certification: *WB 1.1 Wood pellets*

Number of employees: 12

Annual maximum production capacity (metric tonnes): 150000

Number of direct feedstock suppliers: 3

Approximate number of feedstock sub-suppliers: 8

Description of the chain-of-custody and upstream supply chain:

The pellet mill sources only secondary fibre from three sawmills. 60% of its total feedstock from its parent sawmill part of the same industrial complex and the remaining 40% from the other sawmills. Less than 10% of the fibre sourced from external suppliers consist of chips equal to residues as defined by RED.

As for the primary feedstock of the sawmills, it is sourced from logs originating from crown forests managed to Sustainable Forest Management Standards that are regulated by Federal and Provincial legislation and/or approved and accepted guidelines and best management practices or a recognized forest certification scheme. Trees from crown forests are harvested by contracted logging crews and/or equipment operators (between 10-15 overall within LCSM supply chain). Harvests on certified crown forests follow strict procedures and are verified annually by third party auditor.

A small percentage of fibre is sourced from logs purchased from private landowners or industrial developments such as oil and gas dispositions. Activities on these lands are also regulated by Local, Provincial, Federal legislation and bylaws and included in PEFC Chain of Custody certification.

All contractors, on both crown and private forests, sign a supplier assertion or sales agreement with LCSM confirming location of harvests or the means to do so at time of delivery as well as committing to operational guidelines.

Transport of primary feedstock is documented and recorded at time of arrival at the sawmill which include locations, species and quantities. Ownership of primary feedstock from forests is transferred to the sawmill at time of delivery. Once received, the sawmill may sale logs from their log yard to another sawmill. There is no middle man player between forests and the sawmill nor between sawmills.

2.2 Detailed description of the Supply Base

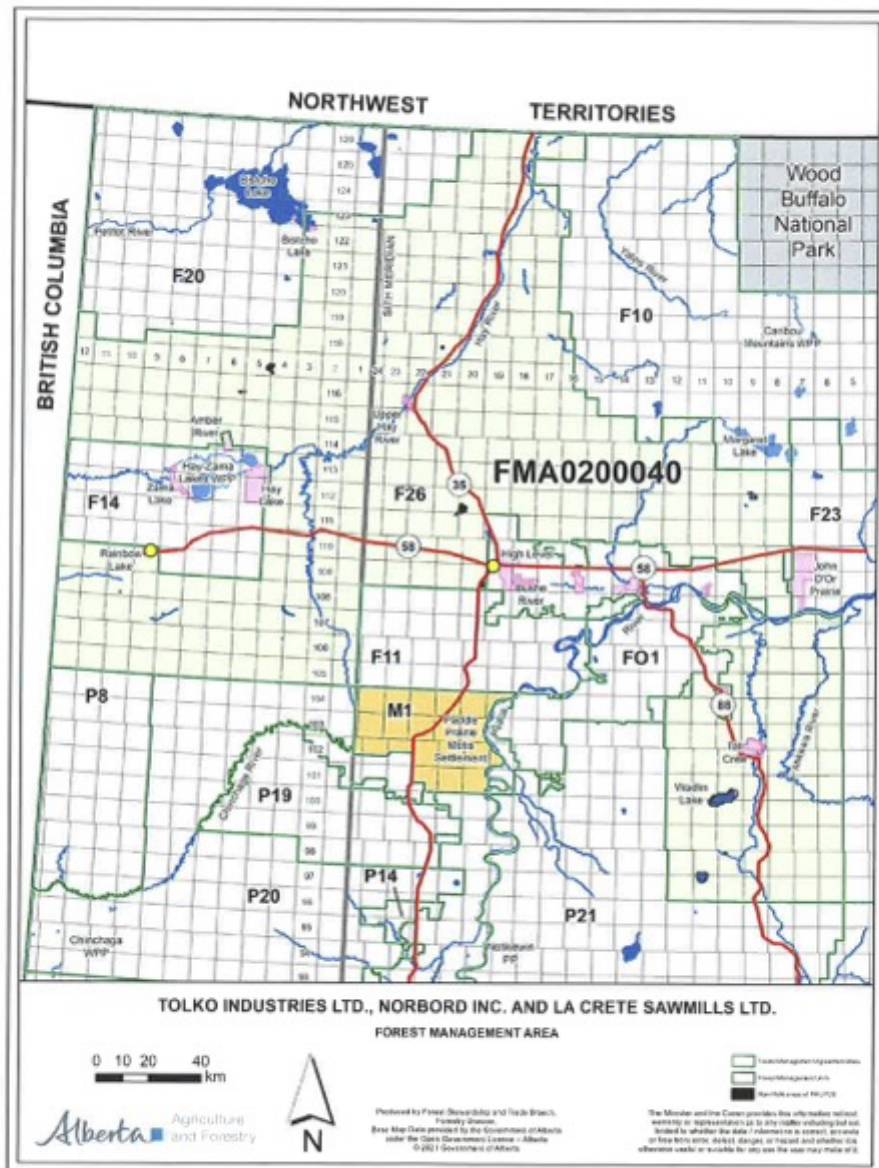
Guidance: Tables below have been generated automatically for each sourcing country based on the selection of 'Feedstock origin (countries)' in section 1 above.

Annex 1 is generated by the system if the SBP SBE is used without Regional Risk Assessment(s) (RRAs). In case RRA(s) is used, further details shall be given only in section 3 below.

Annex 2 is generated if EU RED SBE is in the scope for each country separately.

Country	Canada
Area/Region	8.706
Exclusions	none
Feedstock types	Processing residues
Feedstock Product Groups	Processing residues feedstock (4A)
Feedstock inputs	SBP Compliant feedstock , SBP Controlled feedstock
Is the forest managed to supply energy and non-energy markets?	No
For the forests in the Supply Base, is there an intention to retain, restock or encourage natural regeneration within 5 years of felling?	Yes - Majority
Risk assessment(s)	N/A – Primary and/or Processing residues certified to an SBP- recognised controlled scheme
Provide a concise summary of why a SBE was determined to be required or not required here:	
Not applicable as all material is secondary feedstock and considered as PEFC Controlled Sources or 100% PEFC Certified.	
Feedstock types included in SBE:	
Includes EU RED SBE:	No
Includes EU RED TOF:	No
Size of Supply Base area (million ha):	8.7060
Map(s) of the Supply Base area:	

APPENDIX A



2.3 Feedstock information

- a. Total volume of Feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
- b. Volume of primary feedstock:** 0
- c. List of all the species in primary feedstock, including scientific name:**

Picea glauca	white spruce
Picea mariana	black spruce
Pinus contorta	lodgepole pine
Pinus banksiana	Jack Pine
Abies balsamea	Blasam fir
Larix laricina	Tamarack
Populus balsamifera	Balsam Poplar
Populus tremuloides	Trembling aspen

- d. Was the feedstock used in the biomass removed from a forest as part of a pest/disease control measure or a salvage operation?** Yes - Minority

Explanation: Natural disturbances occur at various scales, intensities and time frames across the supply base. It is not uncommon to find large areas in the boreal forest impacted by fires, pest outbreaks or wind-throws. Salvage logging is prescribed when possible depending on accessibility and the rate at which the timber can be harvested. Not all affected stands are salvaged and for multiple reasons such as for conservation objectives and accessibility or lack thereof. Generally, salvage logging should occur within 2 years of the disturbance.

- e. Hardwood (i.e. broadleaf trees): specify proportion of feedstock from (%):** 2.60
- f. Softwood (i.e. coniferous trees): specify proportion of feedstock from (%):** 97.40
- g. Proportion of feedstock composed of or derived from saw logs by weight (%):** 0.00
- h. Indicate how you determine the proportion of saw log:** Specification issued by a body exercising functions of a public nature and issued for use by sawmills in the area in which the wood was grown.
- i. Roundwood from fellings from forests with > 40 yr rotation times - Average % volume of fellings delivered to BP (%):** 0.00
- j. Select forest type(s) where the primary feedstock was sourced from:** Other
- k. Select the main harvesting system(s) used for the sourced primary feedstock:** Other
- l. Volume of primary feedstock from primary forest:**
- m. Volume of processing residues feedstock:** 1-200,000 tonnes
Physical form of the feedstock: Chips, Sawdust, Other (specify)
- n. Share of SBP-recognised system claim for processing residues:**

100 % PEFC

- o. Volume of post-consumer feedstock:** 0
Physical form of the feedstock: Chips, Sawdust, Other (specify)
- p. Estimated amount of EU RED-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be collected annually by the BP:** 100 %

q. What is the estimated amount of EU RED-compliant sustainable feedstock that could be harvested annually in a Supply Base (estimated): 206362.00 m³

Explanation: Harvests and log transport are well regulated which allow to monitor forest of origins and confirm harvest operations. The cubic meters represent the AAC for the LCSM supply base.

3 Supply Base Risk Assessments and Risk Management Measures

Guidance: Biomass Producers shall demonstrate that any specified risks of sourcing feedstock not in compliance with SBP Standard 1 have been adequately reduced to low risk, following Standard 2 requirements. Following section applies to Biomass Producer's implementing SBP Supply Base Evaluation (SBP RRA or company own risk assessment). EU RED Supply Base Evaluation details are reported in Annex 2.

☒ **Not Applicable – Supply Base Evaluation not implemented**

3.1 Summary of the Supply Base Evaluation

3.2 Conflicts with applicable national and sub-national legislation

3.3 Risk Management Measures

Guidance: Please provide more details about specified risk indicators in each supply country and describe mitigation measures taken to address all specified risks associated with indicators.

4 Stakeholder engagement

4.1 General description

Biomass Producer's stakeholder engagement start date:

Biomass Producer's stakeholder engagement end date:

Total number of stakeholders contacted:

Give a general description of the process of Stakeholders Engagement, including stakeholders contacted, method of communication and a summary of the comments received:

Not applicable. No SBE

4.2 Response to stakeholder comments

5 Report updates and approval

This document is: Updated SBR (surveillance audits/scope-change audits)

Supply Base is the same as previous years. Adapted to version 2 of SBP Standards.

Name	Aaron Doepel
Title	Management representative
Date of report approval	16 Jul 2025

Name	Nicolas Blanchette
Title	Consultant
Date of report approval	16 Jul 2025

Annex 1: Detailed findings for Supply Base Evaluation indicators

Annex 2: EU RED Supply Base Evaluation

Not Applicable (RED II SBE not included)

Annex 3: SBP Processing residues and/or Post-consumer feedstock requirements

☐ Not Applicable (Processing Residues and/or post-consumer feedstock not used)

Verification and monitoring of suppliers

La Crete ensures all suppliers supplying secondary feedstock have signed the supplier assertions. Suppliers of the pellet mill confirm in the supplier assertion they will deliver only feedstock in conformance with RED definition of residues. For the moment, the pellet mill has one external supplier. The organisation will conduct an annual visit of their operations and document the visit in a report.

Feedstock inspection and classification upon receipt

Verification of residues feedstock (chips, sawdust, shavings, bark) is done at time of delivery. If unable to ascertain chips are secondary feedstock, the feedstock is set aside until confirmation can be made it can be considered as residues as defined by RED.

Supplier audit for processing residues and post-consumer feedstock

The organisation conducts an annual audit of the external supplier which include an on-site visit for the first year and when deemed necessary. Annual audits are documented.

Annex 4: EU RED detailed findings for Trees Outside Forest (TOF) feedstock

NOTE: For “Trees outside forests (TOF) – Urban and landscape feedstock” no EU RED sustainability requirements apply, only the GHG savings criteria apply (SBP EU RED Bridging ID v2.0 Section 1.1). The land use category in this case is neither forest land nor agricultural land. For “Trees outside forests (TOF) – Agricultural land feedstock” the applicable criteria are Article 29 paragraphs (2)-(5).

Not Applicable (RED II TOF not included)