



Ntityix Resources customizes their SAFE Certification process

Ntityix Resources LP is Westbank First Nation's (WFN's) forest and resource management company that manages the forest tenures of WFN. These tenures include a Community Forest Agreement and a Replaceable Forest Licence (soon to be a First Nation Woodland Licence), with a combined annual cut of 85,000 m³ over 60,000 hectares of land.

Over 90% of Ntityix's forestry activities are contracted to WFN members. The importance of securing a long-term tenure to ensure that WFN's experienced loggers can work close to home is part of its long-range vision to sustaining generational forestry practices. Some WFN members have worked in the woods for four generations and are now passing along this experience and knowledge to the next generation of WFN forestry workers.

Ntityix's commitment to worksite safety is a fundamental part of their business culture. Their goal, to maintain best safety practices for their worksites, is an essential strategy in business development as both Ntityix and its contractors continue to grow in harvesting, road construction, log hauling, professional and technical field support, and silviculture.

By becoming SAFE Certified, Ntityix has demonstrated its commitment in maintaining high safety standards both internally and across all of its contractors by having a safety management system in place that promotes excellence in worksite safety. Being SAFE Certified helps Ntityix and its contractors reduce / prevent worksite incidents and injuries and improve its reliability, quality and competitiveness in the forestry sector.

"I have been running the Safety program for Ntityix Resources for six years and I think we have been doing a great job on being safe." said Bob Swite, Forestry Technologist with Ntityix Resources. "We promote safety and safety is good business to ensure that everyone makes it home to their families at the end of the day."

Ntityix Resources continues to lead by example with safety goals that support the SAFE Certification standards including:



Rob Swite, employee at Hohn Construction shares his take on safety. "Safety is important out in the bush on an everyday basis. Stay visible and stay safe. Safety first, always!"

Mike Sexton, BCFSC Senior Safety Advisor explains how the customization

- Zero accidents. To have all employees come home safely from the workplace each and every day.
- To ensure all employees are aware and involved in ensuring their own safety and the safety of other crew members.

Both management and employees in each of its service areas from harvesting, log hauling, road construction, field support and silviculture are dedicated to upholding safe work practices by conducting work activities with safety as the overriding priority. Ongoing internal as well as external safety audits, done by SAFE Certified Safety Auditors, are used to measure and improve health and safety practices and maintain Ntityix's high level of safety standards.

Ntityix was able to customize its SAFE Companies training and audit submission through SAFE Companies' personalised coordinated service option. Ntityix's group of contractors were able to take full advantage of this service and get their training and audit submissions completed efficiently and effectively.

process works. "Combining on-site training with assistance in the audit submission process provides the company and its contractors the opportunity for face-to-face contact with BCFSC staff. It allows us to discuss any element of the audit together and provide immediate feedback"

If you are a Prime Contractor and/or Licensee that has a group of contractors you want SAFE Certified, group training and audit submissions can be specifically tailored to meet the requirements of the SAFE Certification process.

If you would like to learn more, please feel free to contact a Safety Advisor or the SAFE Certification training department at **1-877-741-1060**. 📞



Maintaining SAFE Certification every year

With the current downturn in the industry, we have been receiving questions about audit due dates and reporting requirements. This article will provide you with guidance on how to maintain your SAFE Certification, even if your company has limited/no work during this downturn.

Audits are required EVERY YEAR

Remember, an audit MUST be submitted every year to maintain your SAFE Certification and COR Certification, if applicable.

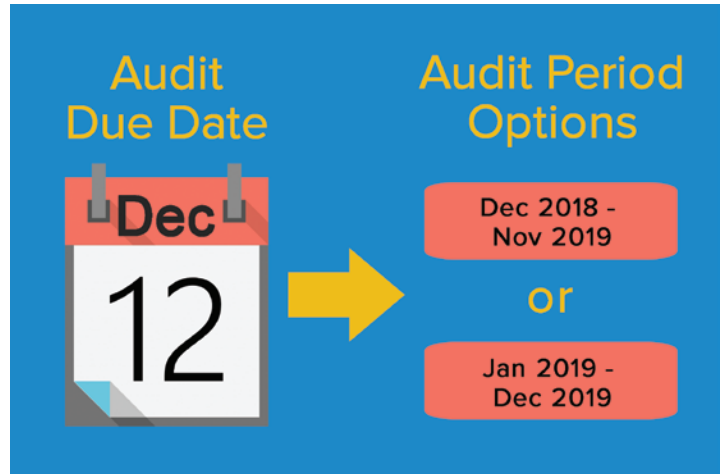
Audit TIME PERIOD

Your audit should include the most recent information from the previous 12 months. You have two options for submitting your audit time period, either submitting your audit with the month prior to the audit due date or the same month of the audit due date:

For example, if your audit is due on December 12, 2019, then your audit time period would be December 2018 to November 2019

or

You could choose to include December 2019 in the audit changing the audit period from January 2019 to December 2019.



LIMITED WORK during Audit Period?

Even if you only worked for a limited time in 2019, you are still required to report on the work you did within your audit period. For example, the personnel count in this example only has active months for March through June 2019.

Total Personnel Count per Month for past 12 months												
(Total = owners + management + office + supervisors + workers +workers of dependent contractors) (Maximum peak = 24 per month) (Maximum average permitted is 19.99)												
Year	2019											
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Count	0	0	8	8	10	6	0	0	0	0	0	0

Safety meeting minutes must be included for every month that the company was active. So, in the SAFE Companies Audit, you would be required to submit safety meeting minutes for **March, April, May and June**.

If your company worked during your audit period, the only acceptable blank form would be a New Worker Orientation form but only if you didn't hire any new workers.

NO WORK during Audit Period?

To maintain your SAFE Certification, we still need to confirm your company's safety program is in place, that it meets SAFE Certification program requirements, and most importantly, is ready for the company to safely start work again.

You still need to submit an audit and provide your program forms and policies, even if some forms are blank. For example, in a SEBASE Audit, you still need to submit a blank investigation form.

ANSWER ALL AUDIT QUESTIONS!!

All questions in the audit require a response, even if the answer is not applicable or if you are just checking the "no" box. Leaving the question blank and not providing a response will result in "0" points for that question which will negatively impact your total score.

Are you COR Certified too?

You may be eligible to receive a WorkSafeBC COR Incentive. WorkSafeBC requires a company's account to be active and in good standing. Some companies cancel/suspend their account during inactive times but this can affect your COR rebate eligibility. For more information on COR rebates, visit www.worksafebc.com/en/health-safety/create-manage/certificate-recognition/incentives.

If you need further clarification or require more information, you can always contact SAFE Companies with any questions at **1-877-741-1060** or by email at safeco@bcforestsafe.org.