



QAVMP Focused Tree Inspection Standard Work Document



This document provides guidance on the Quality Assurance Vegetation Management Performance (QAVMP) groups process for auditing work performed by the Quality Control Work Verification (QC WV) group for the Vegetation Management (VM) distribution Focused Tree Inspection (FTI) pilot.

STAKEHOLDERS

All Tree Risk Assessment Qualified (TRAQ) personnel on the QAVMP team performing audits of work performed by the QC WV group for the VM FTI pilot.

PREREQUISITES

- [QAVMP Business Process Document \(BPD\) Procedure](#)
- [VM QM Tree Risk Assessment Guide](#)
- VEGM-0112 Focus Tree Inspection (FTI) WBT
- [Vegetation Management Distribution Inspection Procedures, Attachment 7 \(TD-7102P-01\)](#)
- [Focused Tree Inspection Procedures \(TD-7102P-01-Att07\)](#)
- [Focused Tree Inspection Bulletin \(TD-7102P-01-B033\)](#)
- QAVMP Senior Compliance and Risk Specialists (SCRC) confirm TRAQ credentials prior to assigning FTI QAVMP Program Manager (PM) locations.

SCOPE

QAVMP assessment of audit work performed by the QC WV group on the VM distribution Focused Tree inspection pilot as directed in the VM Focused Tree Inspection Procedures TD-7102P-01-Att07 and Focused Tree Inspection Bulletin TD-7102P-01-B033.

ASSOCIATED TOOLS

- FTI Field Map
- FTI Web Application and Dashboard
- VM FTI QAVMP Survey and FTI Veg Survey in Survey 123

PROCESS

QC WV Location Sampling Methodology

Quality Management (QM) Analyst will perform a statistically valid random sample pull from the QM System of Record as requested by the QM Director to identify FTI pilot locations audited by QC WV verifiers. PM will identify the span/scope of work used by QC WV upon receiving sample starting point from randomized list.



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SURVEY QUESTIONS

QAVMP Access Constraint

Survey question: Can this location be reviewed?

- a. The PM (Program Manager – Auditor) will determine if a location can be reviewed by answering Yes or No. If the answer is **Yes**, the survey continues to next question in survey.
- If the answer is **No**, contact your local SCRC to discuss. Refer to the QAVMP Business Process Document (BPD) Procedure for additional guidance for skipping locations. Ensure that all customer contacts (dates/times) & details surrounding constraint are documented.

WV Timeframe of FTI Assessment

Survey question: Indicate the WV timeframe of the FTI location review?

- Duplicate the answer QC WV provided in their 'VM FTI WV Survey':
 - o **Post VMI** or **Post TC**

Indicate the WV timeframe of the FTI location review *

☐ Post VMI

☐ Post TC

Priority Tree Non-Conformance Findings

Survey question: *Is all vegetation at FTI location in compliance with the VM Priority Tag procedure (TD-7102P-17)?*

- PM must follow [Priority Tag Procedure TD-7102P-17](#) when priority trees are observed on distribution voltage lines. Additionally refer to Distribution Inspection Procedure TD-7102P-01.
- IF the PM answers **No**: PM will contact the local SCRC to report out a P1 or P2 finding as described in the QAVMP BPD Procedure.
- The applicable QAVMP Finding Type is either FTI MDR Vegetation Conformance Deficiency or FTI Fall-In Vegetation Deficiency depending on the condition of the vegetation that **meets a priority tree designation**.



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- FTI Fall-In Vegetation Deficiency: Please refer to the [VM QM Tree Risk Assessment Guide](#)
 - IF PM identifies tree that **meets the criteria** of a Major Woody Stem at the FTI survey location, THEN **verify the following**:
 - Wood is more than 6 inches from high voltage conductor.
 - There is no evidence of prior contact between any portion of the tree branches or trunk and the conductor, including abrasion and/or incidental contact. (This does not apply to burn marks due to previous contact that has been mitigated.)
 - The tree has been established in its current location for at least 10 years.
 - The tree is at least 10 in. in diameter at breast height (DBH)
 - The tree or limb at the conductor level is at least 6 in. in diameter.
 - The tree is not resprouting at the conductor level at the time of inspection.
 - The tree is not easily climbable, with scaffold branches present below 8.5 ft. from the ground.
 - The tree is not hazardous per TD-7102P-17, "Vegetation Management Priority Tag Procedure."
- Answer **No** to the survey question: IF the PM identifies that any of the above conditions have not been met, THEN report a P1 or P2 by contacting their local SCRC.
- Answer **Yes** to the survey question: IF the PM confirms that the MWS tree can qualify for an exemption based on meeting the exemption criteria listed above.
- Note: QC WV Verifiers are not expected to determine if the MWS exemption is recorded in the VM System of Record.

Is all vegetation at FTI location in compliance with the VM Priority Tag Procedure (TD-7102P-17)? *

☐ Yes ☒ No

What priority is the vegetation condition? *

☐ Priority 1 ☐ Priority 2

☐ Priority 1 and 2

How many trees not in compliance? *



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Fall-in Vegetation Finding

Survey question: *Were all dead and dying fall-in and live green fall-in trees at FTI location likely (probable or imminent) to fail within 15 months from FTI VMI inspection date identified?*

- FTI Fall-In Vegetation Deficiency: Please refer to the [VM QM Tree Risk Assessment Guide](#)
- IF PM answers **No**: The PM will need to provide the quantity of trees that are **not in compliance now** or will not hold the 15-month cycle timeframe from VMI inspection date at the location. Additionally the PM will review the tree(s) with their immediate supervisor for additional verification.
- For every FTI Fall-in finding, the PM must create a vegetation point ID on the FTI Map and complete a vegetation survey. The finding type is FTI Fall-In Vegetation Deficiency, and the corresponding QAVMP Tag Type should be selected that fits the predominant tree condition.

Were all dead and dying fall-in trees and live green fall-in trees at FTI location likely (probable or imminent) to fail within 15 months from FTI VMI inspection date identified? *

☐ Yes

☒ No

How many trees will fail within 15 months? *



Secondary Conductor Strain and Abrasion Finding

Survey question: *Are the secondary conductor(s) excluding service drops, free of strain and/or abrasion at the FTI location?*

- **NOTE:** *Strain or abrasion on a conductor is present when contact with vegetation significantly compromises the structural integrity of distribution supply facilities. Contact between vegetation and conductors in and of itself does not constitute non-conformance with the rule.*
- IF PM answers **No**: The PM will be asked to provide the quantity of trees.
- For every FTI Secondary Strain/Abrasion finding, the PM must **create** a vegetation point ID on the FTI Map and **complete** a vegetation survey. The finding type is FTI Secondary Strain and Abrasion Deficiency, and the corresponding QAVMP Tag Type should be QAVMP Secondary Strain & Abrasion.

Are the secondary conductor(s) excluding service drops, free of strain and/or abrasion at the FTI location? *

☐ Yes

☒ No

☐ N/A

How many trees secondary conductor have strain and/or abrasion? *





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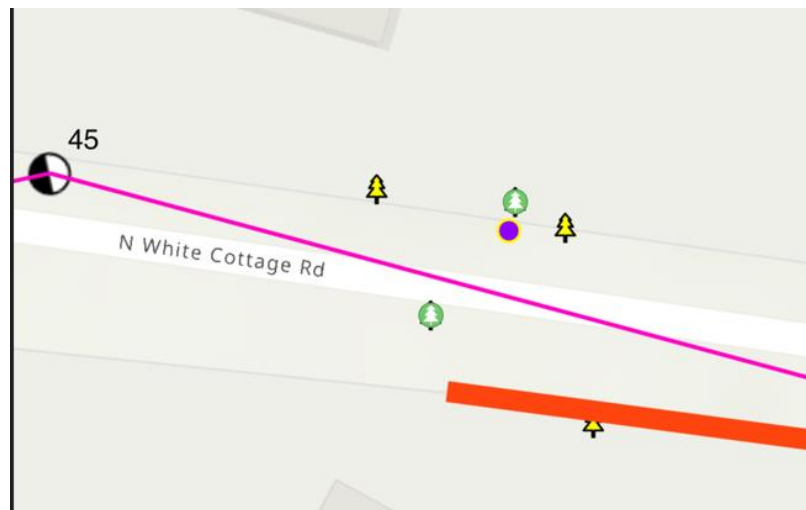
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QAVMP Tree Marking and Quantity

The PM auditor will use green and white striped flagging to indicate a finding. The 'Audit ID', 'Finding Type' and 'LAN ID' will be written on the flagging.

- Total trees inspected:
 - The total number of trees AND brush inspected by the Routine VMI (yellow trees on the map) and FTI VMI (green trees on the map) + QC WV identified missed trees (in QC WV survey) + any additional missed trees identified by QAVMP.
 - Example: (3) Routine VMI 'yellow trees' + (2) FTI VMI 'green trees' = 5 total trees inspected by execution VMI



- Do not "double count" the green and yellow FTI identified trees that are placed on top of one another on the map (zoom in on the map).
- Do not count an individual tree or brush again as a failure if it is already counted as a tree/brush identified by the QC WV verifier or listed for work by the VMI inspector. Examples below:
 - *FTI trees identified for work and signed off as complete but not enough clearance to maintain compliance was achieved by the tree crew.*
 - *FTI trees identified for work and signed off as "no work" by tree crew.*

Total Trees Inspected *



Total Trees Failed *





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