

# WEYERHAEUSER WOOD PROCUREMENT POLICY

## POLICY

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It is Weyerhaeuser's policy to work to ensure we and our sources comply with the law and do not cause or encourage destruction of forest areas at risk of loss from unsustainable forest management practices. Weyerhaeuser is committed, through our international land management and procurement activities, to promoting the conservation of natural forests in areas identified as biodiversity hotspots and major tropical wilderness areas and to working with governments, conservation organizations and others to ensure that our procurement practices strengthen efforts to thwart illegal logging. In the United States and Canada, Weyerhaeuser also operates in conformance with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) standard. This commitment extends to procurement of all wood-based raw materials for all of our mills worldwide, and to the purchase of products for resale.

### **Ensuring Legal and Sustainable Practices Throughout the Supply Chain**

Within the regions in which we and our sources operate, Weyerhaeuser works with governments, environmental nongovernmental organizations, indigenous peoples and communities to identify and help protect forest areas that are priorities for conservation. For publicly owned lands, this requires our support for and participation in land use planning through government processes. For privately owned lands, we support protection efforts by conservation organizations as well as government, including land exchanges, sales, conservation easements, and other initiatives. In addition, we address forest conservation through our [Sustainable Forestry Policy](#), other site-specific elements of our environmental management systems, and our commitment to certification of our forest management and fiber sourcing systems.

Weyerhaeuser will not harvest or buy wood from old-growth forests<sup>1</sup> in the United States. The only exceptions are forests harvested with active support from environmental groups due to a net environmental benefit; respect for the autonomy of indigenous peoples; and support for public land managers' efforts to improve forest health.

Weyerhaeuser will not knowingly purchase wood, wood fiber, or products for distribution that originate from illegal logging<sup>2</sup>. Weyerhaeuser will also not harvest or purchase wood, wood fiber, or products for distribution from forest areas at risk of loss, major tropical wilderness areas or biodiversity hotspots,<sup>3,4</sup> unless the sources have been independently certified or verified as having originated from well managed systems. Weyerhaeuser will exercise due care to ensure that our sources comply with these policies, including the use of third-party certification and other credible and transparent safeguards in countries lacking effective laws against illegal logging. Weyerhaeuser may, at our discretion, continue to work with sources that demonstrate their ability to comply with this policy within an agreed-upon period of time.

In the United States and Canada, Weyerhaeuser timberlands also operate in conformance with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) standard. When operations using the SFI standard are procuring externally sourced logs and chips for use in Weyerhaeuser manufacturing and chipping facilities or by Weyerhaeuser log customers, Weyerhaeuser operates in conformance with SFI's fiber sourcing principles and objectives. Our approach to implementation will vary by location, to address differences in regions, landownership, and wood and fiber product types.

### **Use of Qualified Resource and Logging Professionals**

Weyerhaeuser supports and promotes activities of SFI State Implementation Committees (SICs) promoting certified and professional logger training. We encourage the use of certified logging professionals (where available) and qualified resource and logging professionals by those who supply raw material to Weyerhaeuser manufacturing facilities and to others. The percentage of purchases from certified logging professionals and qualified resource and logging professionals is tracked on annually and used to set goals for continual improvement. It is our goal to source 100% of our fiber from qualified resource and logging professionals.

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<sup>1</sup> For Weyerhaeuser's operations, old-growth forest consists of stands that are greater than or equal to fifty (50) acres in size and have greater than or equal to 50% of the dominant, native tree species (appropriate for site conditions) greater than or equal to 200 years of age west of the crest of the Cascade Mountains, or 250 years of age east of the crest.

<sup>2</sup> We use the definition of Illegal logging in the Lacey Act.

<sup>3</sup> Biodiversity hotspots and major tropical wilderness areas are areas outside North America defined and mapped by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund in collaboration with Conservation International as of 2014. See: <http://www.cepf.net/resources/maps/Pages/default.aspx>.

<sup>4</sup> These areas may change from time to time, as additional areas at risk are identified. This may be for biological reasons, i.e., a forest type that cannot or is not being managed sustainably, or for governance reasons, i.e., a region's political, social, or legal institutions are inadequate to support sustainable forestry. We support the development of, and use information produced by, environmental nongovernmental organizations, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, national governments, and scientific organizations to understand the risks to different areas of the world, and to help determine forest areas to include in these guidelines.

### **Best Management Practices in Fiber Sourcing**

Weyerhaeuser requires the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs) by landowners and forest operators that supply Weyerhaeuser with raw material.

- Contracts for the purchase of raw material from landowners and forest operators include provisions requiring the use of BMPs.
- Weyerhaeuser promotes the use of BMPs as part of our public commitment to the principles of sustainable forestry.
- Promotion of BMPs includes the supply of information about biodiversity, the identification and protection of important habitat elements for wildlife, including critically imperiled and imperiled species and communities (Forests of Exceptional Conservation Value), reforestation and afforestation, visual quality management, harvest residue management, control of invasive exotic plants and animals, and characteristics of special sites.
- Regional differences are taken into consideration when crafting promotional strategies and in determining the form, intensity, and delivery method of the promotion.

Weyerhaeuser promotes the American Tree Farm System as an effective tool for expanding and certifying sustainable forest management with family forest landowners in the United States. Weyerhaeuser procurement programs implement a company preference for raw material sourced from Tree Farm-certified land.

### **Monitoring the Effectiveness of Promotional Material and BMP Requirements**

The purpose of a monitoring system is to evaluate how effective Weyerhaeuser's promotional efforts and contractual requirements are in influencing landowners and wood suppliers to use BMPs during forest operations. Weyerhaeuser will not always procure wood from the same individuals, but each mill does procure wood from the same general wood basket. Weyerhaeuser measures the success of our efforts by evaluating BMPs in the overall wood basket, when such information is available, and uses that information to set goals for continual improvement.

- Weyerhaeuser gives preference to state or regional monitoring programs by state agencies, forest associations, or forestry consultants. If no coordinated monitoring program exists, Weyerhaeuser will encourage its development, with preference for agency programs producing publicly available data. When state or regional monitoring programs exist in areas where Weyerhaeuser procures wood fiber, Weyerhaeuser will assume Weyerhaeuser suppliers are similar to the average supplier in the area unless there is reliable information otherwise.
- Absent a state or regional monitoring program, Weyerhaeuser will develop other ways to evaluate effectiveness of BMP requirements and promotional efforts.
  - Information about wood produced by certified logging professionals and qualified resource and qualified logging professionals can be used to make assumptions about BMP compliance. Qualified logging professionals are trained in the importance of BMPs and have demonstrated a willingness to use them when they earn and maintain their professionally trained logger status.
  - Monitoring wood suppliers will be voluntary, not a condition of contracting with the company.
  - When sampling methods are utilized, we will focus on sampling the largest suppliers and phase in additional volume over time, as needed.
  - When procuring residual chips from an outside manufacturing facility that uses logs as raw material and when efforts to collect information about the facility's log suppliers fails to generate sufficient data, Weyerhaeuser will assume those log suppliers operate similarly to other log suppliers in the same general area unless there is reliable information otherwise.

### **Guidelines for Adverse Weather Conditions**

Weyerhaeuser managers are expected to schedule harvesting operations and manage log and chip inventories in a manner that supports adherence to SFI objectives. If unanticipated events or changes in the weather compromise SFI objectives in forests controlled by Weyerhaeuser, managers will, with the consent of the landowner, implement appropriate mitigation.

## **APPROVAL**

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- Original approval: Senior Vice President, Timberlands; Executive Vice President, Wood Products; Executive Vice President, Pulp, Paper, and Packaging, May 30, 1998
- Revision approval: Vice President, Sustainable Forestry, June 1, 2004  
Senior Vice President, Timberlands, October 13, 2010  
Vice President, Sustainable Forestry, June 5, 2013  
Vice President, Sustainable Forestry, June 17, 2015

## **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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[Sustainable Forestry Policy](#)