



SUSTAINABLE
FORESTRY
INITIATIVE

SFI-00001

THE SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD

PROMOTING RESPONSIBLE PROCUREMENT OF ALL FIBER SOURCED DIRECTLY FROM THE FOREST

The SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard requirements include:

- **Measures to Broaden Biodiversity**
- **BMPs to Protect Water Quality**
- **Trained Harvesting Professionals**
- **Forestry Research**
- **Landowner Outreach**
- **Avoidance of Controversial Sources**



The standard is also a key tool to promote the legal and responsible sourcing of forest products. The standard holds the individual mills and manufacturers, who bear all the costs to certify, accountable for promoting responsible forestry.

Given that about 90% of the world's forests are uncertified, there need to be strong mechanisms to promote responsible procurement from these lands. SFI fiber sourcing certification encourages the spread of responsible forestry practices. The SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard is purposefully designed to influence millions of additional landowners through promotion, education, training, and outreach. Because of SFI requirements for logger training, nearly 95% of the fiber delivered to SFI Program Participant mills is delivered by harvesting professionals who have been trained in sustainable forestry practices.

The SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard distinguishes SFI from all other forest certification programs in that it sets mandatory practice requirements for the responsible procurement of all fiber sourced directly from the forest, whether the forest is certified or not.

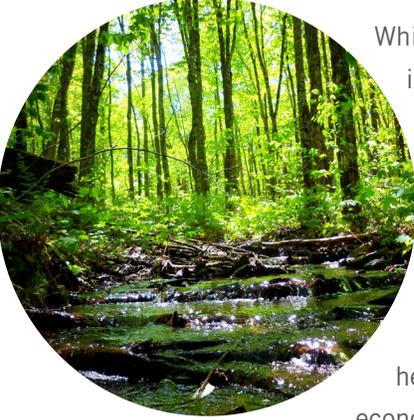
One of the major enhancements to the SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules was to separate the SFI fiber sourcing certification requirements into their own stand-alone standard - the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard.



**THE CHOICES
WE MAKE EVERY DAY
DETERMINE THE FUTURE
OF OUR FORESTS.**

WHO BENEFITS FROM SFI FIBER SOURCING?

In the United States, approximately 10 million family forest owners account for more than 60 percent of private forest lands, and in Canada, family forest owners in many regions provide a significant share of the raw materials used by SFI Program Participants.



While large tracts of public and industrial forest lands are certified in North America, many family forests are not because timber harvesting is often not the primary management activity. SFI fiber sourcing certification helps landowners achieve economic value from their forests while considering the environmental

benefits and encourages family forest owners to maintain their forests as forests. SFI fiber sourcing certification delivers benefits to every link of the supply chain — from the forest to the consumer — and beyond.

THE SFI RESEARCH REQUIREMENT

Investing in research is a requirement of both the SFI 2015-2019 Forest Management and SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standards. Since 1995, SFI Program Participants have directly invested nearly \$1.5 billion in forest research. In 2014, nearly 80% of these investments were allocated to conservation-related

AVOIDING CONTROVERSIAL SOURCES

For all wood fiber, regardless of the country of origin, the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard has requirements to avoid controversial sources, including fiber sourced from illegal logging and fiber sourced from areas without effective social laws.

Definition of Controversial Sources:

- a. Forest activities which are not in compliance with applicable state, provincial or federal laws, particularly as they may relate to:
 - conversion sources,
 - legally required protection of threatened and endangered species,
 - requirements of CITES (The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)
 - legally required management of areas with designated high environmental and cultural values,
 - labor regulations relating to forest workers,
 - Indigenous Peoples' property, tenure and use rights.
- b. Fiber sourced from illegal logging.
- c. Fiber sourced from areas without effective social laws.

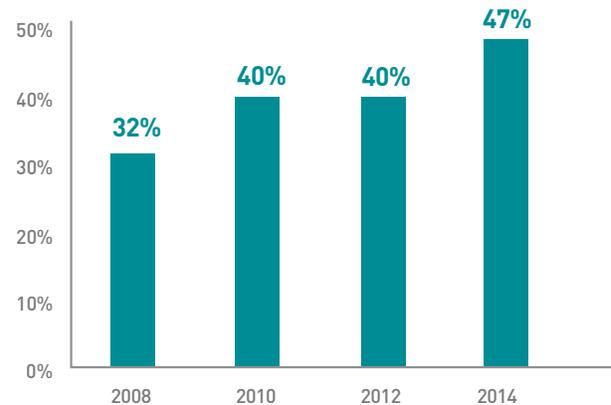
“... SFI (has) made important contributions to improved best management practices implementation through logger training, landowner outreach and water quality requirements.”

National Association of State Foresters - in their 2015 report on Best Management Practices (BMPs)



objectives. SFI Program Participants must also develop verifiable monitoring systems to evaluate the use of best management practices across the wood and fiber supply area.

All fiber procured by SFI primary producers is certified to the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard. Based on the volume reported in 2014 by SFI primary producers, we also know that 47% of that fiber is certified to the SFI, American Tree Farm System (ATFS) and/or the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) forest management standards.



SFI CERTIFIED SOURCING LABEL AND CLAIMS

The SFI Certified Sourcing label tells buyers and consumers that fiber comes from a company that is certified to the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard, or comes from recycled content, or from a certified forest. All fiber must be from non-controversial sources. Certified sourcing is defined in SFI Definitions (Section 13, SFI 2015-2019 Standards and Rules)

The SFI requirements define two types of producers — primary and secondary.

- **Primary producers:** Manufacturing units that manufacture forest products and source 50 percent or more (by weight) of their woodbased raw materials directly from primary sources. Primary producers can include companies that manufacture roundwood, wood chips, and/or composite products.
- **Secondary producers:** Manufacturing units that produce forest products and source 50 percent or more (by weight) of their woodbased raw materials from secondary sources.

Products that carry Certified Sourcing labels may include:

- **FIBER THAT CONFORMS WITH THE SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD**
- **PRE- AND POST-CONSUMER RECYCLED CONTENT**
- **CERTIFIED FOREST CONTENT**
- **NON-CONTROVERSIAL SOURCES**

Secondary producers can include manufacturers of finished forest products, such as plywood, furniture, windows, magazines, printers or catalogs, and manufacturers using market pulp, recycled content, or from a certified forest. All fiber must be from non-controversial sources.

Any primary producer who wants to use the SFI Certified Sourcing label (shown here) must be certified to the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard, Objectives 1-13 and Appendix 1 - Rules for Use of the SFI Certified Sourcing Label by competent, accredited, independent third-party certification bodies. Secondary producers who want to use the SFI Certified Sourcing Label must be certified to Appendix 1 – Rules for Use of the SFI Certified Sourcing Label. All certification bodies must be accredited by a member of ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board, American National Standards Institute or Standards Council of Canada.



Almost all of the fiber **delivered to SFI** Program Participant mills is delivered by harvesting professionals who have been **trained in sustainable forestry practices**.



LOGGER TRAINING: A REQUIREMENT OF FIBER SOURCING

9,988

RESOURCE AND HARVESTING PROFESSIONALS

participated in training in 2014, to ensure understanding of **water quality, biodiversity** and **other sustainable forest practice requirements**. (Cumulative total since 1995: 160,370*).

*This total may include individuals who have completed training programs more than once.
- Data provided by Forest Resources Association



SFI 2015-2019 FIBER SOURCING STANDARD OBJECTIVES

The SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard promotes responsible forestry practices based on 14 principles, 13 objectives, 21 performance measures and 55 indicators. The Fiber Sourcing Standard applies to any organization with a fiber sourcing program that acquires roundwood and field manufactured or primary-mill residual chips, pulp and veneer to support a forest products facility. *Objectives 11-13 apply to sourcing fiber outside the United States and Canada.*

OBJECTIVES:

Objective 1. Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing: to address the practice of sustainable forestry by conserving biological diversity.

Objective 2. Adherence to Best Management Practices: to broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through the use of best management practices to protect water quality.

Objective 3. Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals: to encourage forest landowners to utilize the services of qualified logging professionals, certified logging professionals (where available) and qualified resource professionals.

Objective 4. Legal and Regulatory Compliance: to comply with applicable federal, provincial, state and local laws and regulations.

Objective 5. Forestry Research, Science and Technology: to invest in forestry research, science and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based and broaden the awareness of climate change impacts on forests, wildlife and biological diversity.

Objective 6. Training and Education: to improve the implementation of sustainable forestry practices through appropriate training and education programs.

Objective 7. Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach: to broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education, and involvement and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.

Objective 8. Public Land Management Responsibilities: to participate and implement sustainable forest management on public lands.

Objective 9. Communications and Public Reporting: to increase transparency and to annually report progress on conformance with the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard.

Objective 10. Management Review and Continual Improvement: to promote continual improvement in the practice of sustainable forestry by conducting a management review and monitoring performance.

Objective 11. Promote Conservation of Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Hotspots and High-Biodiversity Wilderness Areas: to promote the conservation of biological diversity, biodiversity hotspots and high-biodiversity wilderness areas in fiber sourcing programs.

Objective 12. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal logging: to avoid illegal logging in fiber sourcing programs.

Objective 13. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Fiber Sourced from Areas without Effective Social Laws: to avoid controversial sources in fiber sourcing programs.

WHO WE ARE

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® Inc. is an independent, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting sustainable forest management. While we develop and oversee standards for forest management and the forest products supply chain, we are more than a set of standards — we are a community that stands for future forests. SFI works at the intersection of thriving forests, sustainable communities and responsible procurement.

SFI® Inc. is governed by the SFI Board, which sets SFI's strategic direction and is responsible for overseeing and improving the internationally recognized SFI Program and SFI Standards.

The Board's three chambers represent environmental, social and economic sectors equally.

Forests certified to the SFI Forest Management Standard cover more than a quarter-billion acres/100 million hectares, stretching from Canada's boreal forest to the U.S. South. These forests contribute to the overall quality of life of millions of people throughout the United States and Canada, and generate forest products utilized in more than 120 countries worldwide.

SFI works to ensure the health and future of our forests, because forests are a part of our everyday lives. Growing this future will require a broad range of partnerships and expertise. SFI brings landowners and brand owners from across the supply chain together with communities, government agencies, conservation groups and other key interests to advance understanding and ensure a better future for all of us.

LEARN MORE: sfiprogram.org/sfi-standard or contact SFI Inc. at (202) 596-3450

LABEL GOES
HERE -
PLACEHOLDER