



FOREST CERTIFICATION IN CANADA



FPAC.ca
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Independent forest certification provides a stamp of approval that shows customers that they are buying products from forests managed to comprehensive environmental, social and economic standards. A certificate is issued only after a thorough review by third-party auditors determines that, among other things, long-term harvests are sustainable, there is no unauthorized or illegal logging, wildlife habitat is preserved, and soil quality is maintained.

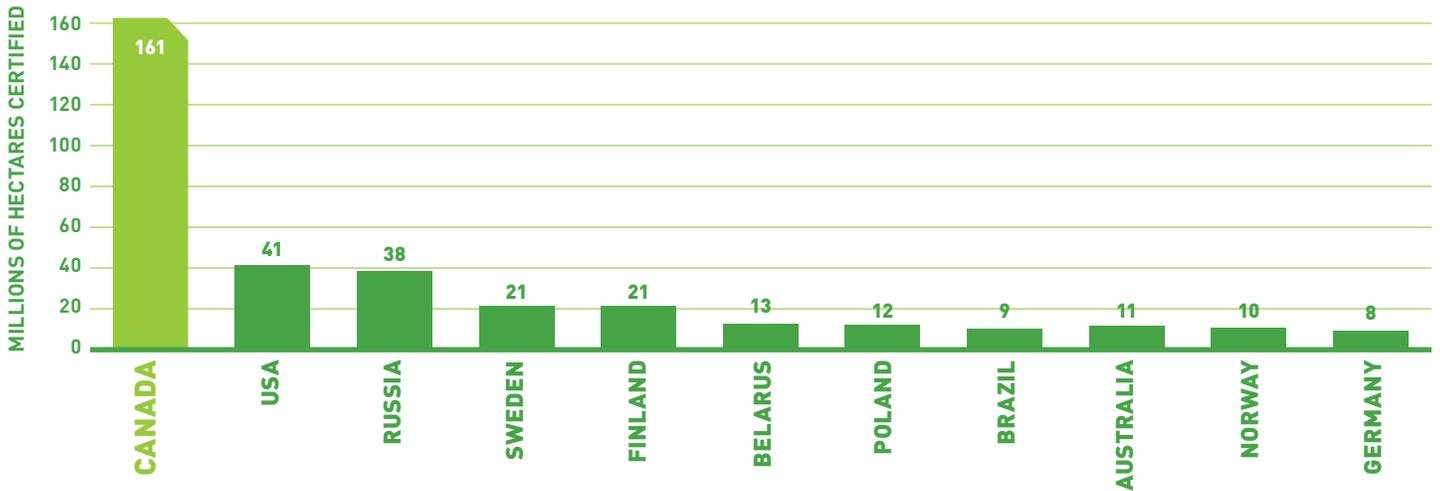
Canadian forest managers certify their lands to forest management standards offered under three internationally recognized programs: Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI). All three set high thresholds that forest companies must clear, above and beyond Canada's tough regulatory requirements. Both the CSA and SFI standards, developed as Canadian and American standards respectively, are accepted globally under the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), the world's largest forest certification system. FSC is accepted globally using regional standards. SFI is the largest forest certification system in North America.

Certification standards are tailored to take into account global forestry issues as well as circumstances specific to the Canadian landscape such as the livelihood of local communities and the interests of Aboriginal people. A sample list of values for the standards is outlined on the reverse page.

Chain-of-custody and product labelling are also common features of each of these programs. Chain-of-custody is a set of administrative and technical requirements (including inventory control) for tracing wood sources from their origins to the first mill through to the end user.

FOREST CERTIFICATION SENDS A STRONG MESSAGE ON SUSTAINABILITY

The Canadian Council of Forest Ministers recognizes CSA, FSC and SFI as being consistent with national and international agreements related to sustainable forest management and meeting criteria for balancing interests and being objective, science-based, implementable and practical. Looking for suppliers that use certification to prove they are committed to sustainability is an easy and effective way to choose responsible wood, pulp and paper products.



CANADIAN SUSTAINABLE FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT

Canada has the largest area of forests in the world that are third-party independently certified. As of 2014, only about 10% of the world's forests were certified. Canada had 161 million hectares or 43% of these certified forests.

CSA, FSC AND SFI VALUES

ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental values assessed by each program include conservation of biological diversity; protection of wildlife habitat, special biological sites and endangered species; maintenance of soil and water resources; and reforestation. Compliance with all applicable laws is required.

SOCIAL

The social values that are protected include sustainability of harvest; public involvement; Aboriginal consultation as well as use rights and title, cultural sites, and forest tenure; worker health and safety; and mechanisms for resolving conflicts.

ECONOMIC

Long-term economic viability of forest products companies and forest communities results when fibre comes from legal and sustainable harvesting and customers use their purchasing power to support those responsible sources.

CHAIN-OF-CUSTODY

All programs include a chain-of-custody certification that verifies products purchased by consumers that originate from certified forests and other responsible sources. Chain-of-custody standards require screening of any non-certified wood sources.

LABELLING

Organizations that have valid chain-of-custody certification from CSA, FSC or SFI can opt to label products covered under the certificate.

LEARN MORE

Canadian Standards Association: csasfmforests.ca

Forest Stewardship Council: fscCanada.org

Sustainable Forestry Initiative: sfiprogram.org

Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification: pefc.org

Certification statistics: certificationcanada.org

FPAC Forest Certification in Canada brochure: fpac.ca/certification



FPAC advocates on behalf of the forest sector. FPAC is also working to realize the ambitious goals of Vision2020 to help the industry transform with innovative new products, diversified markets, enhanced environmental credentials and a skilled workforce. FPAC is proud to represent Canada's largest producers of forest products.

All FPAC members are signatories of the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement. Our members are responsible for 66% of certified forest lands in Canada. Third-party certification of member companies' forest practices is a condition of membership in the Association — a world first.