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Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Forest Management Standard Principles

1. Sustainable Forestry

Practising sustainable forestry means meeting the needs of the present while promoting the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by following a land stewardship ethic that integrates reforestation and the managing, growing, nurturing, and harvesting of trees for useful products. In addition, management should support the provision of ecosystem services, such as the conservation of soil, air and water quality and quantity; climate change adaptation and mitigation; biological diversity; wildlife and aquatic habitats; recreation; and aesthetics.

2. Forest Productivity and Health

Provide for regeneration after harvest, maintain the health and productive capacity of the forest land base, and protect and maintain long-term soil health and productivity. In addition, protect forests from economically, environmentally, or socially undesirable impacts of wildfire, pests, diseases, invasive species, and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term forest health and productivity.

3. Protection of Water Resources

Protect and maintain the quality and quantity of water bodies and riparian areas, and conform with forestry best management practices to protect water quality, to meet the needs of both human communities and ecological systems.

4. Protection of Biological Diversity

Manage forests in ways that protect and promote biological diversity, including animal and plant species, wildlife habitats, ecologically and culturally important species, threatened and endangered species (i.e., in Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value) and native forest cover types at multiple scales.

5. Aesthetics and Recreation

Manage the visual impacts of forest operations, and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

6. Protection of Special Sites

Manage lands that are geologically or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities.

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7. Legal Compliance

Comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations.

8. Research

Support advances in sustainable forest management through research, science, and technology.

9. Training and Education

Improve the practice of sustainable forestry through training and education programs.

10. Community Involvement and Social Responsibility, and Respect for Indigenous Rights

Broaden the practice of sustainable forestry on all lands through community involvement, socially responsible practices, and recognition and respect of Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional forest-related knowledge.

11. Transparency

Broaden the understanding of forest certification to the Forest Management Standard by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available.

12. Continual Improvement

Continually improve the practice of forest management, and monitor, measure, and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry.

13. Responsible Fibre Sourcing

Use and promote sustainable forestry across a diversity of ownership and management types in the United States and Canada that is both scientifically credible and socially, environmentally, and economically responsible and avoid sourcing from controversial sources, both domestically and internationally.

Source: Sustainable Forestry Initiative. <https://forests.org/forestmanagementstandard/>

Career Corner



LUMBER MILL WORKERS

cut logs into lumber for building materials such as flooring, windows, and doors. These workers may use computers to figure out the best way to cut each log and how to reduce wood waste.