



Sustainability brief:

## Forest certification

### What is forest certification?

Forest certification is a voluntary process implemented by organizations all over the world that establishes traceability, monitoring and best management practices within the forest and throughout the supply chain. Forest certification standards provide a framework to protect and improve the benefits and functions of the forest including clear air and water, wildlife habitat, plant biodiversity, soil health and recreation.



### Why is certification important?

Forests are critical to our planet. In the natural world, they provide habitat for wildlife, act as natural filters for watersheds, reduce erosion and compaction to soils, and facilitate long-term carbon storage. Forests provide additional benefits to humans through contributing to mental and physical wellbeing, in addition to providing renewable resources to industries people depend on daily such as paper, lumber, plywood, and veneers.

As a business that relies on a sustainable supply of wood fiber, we recognize the best way to ensure our forests continue to provide these benefits for generations to come is through practicing responsible forest management. Forest Certification provides the framework for managing forests responsibly in a manner that ensures we can continue doing business for years to come.

By maintaining Chain of Custody certification, our customers are able to promote responsible forest management by including a third-party certification label on their end products. Fiber Procurement Standards provide assurance that all non-Chain of Custody material is still in adherence with state Best Management Practices and any pertinent state and federal laws.

## What processes must be followed for land to be certified?

In order to obtain certification, landowners must do multiple things:

- Assess environmental impacts of forest operations
- Manage according to written management plans
- Minimize the environmental impact of harvesting operations
- Avoid genetically-modified trees and highly-hazardous chemicals
- Comply with applicable laws and certification program principles
- Manage to protect worker health and safety
- Adhere to best management plans
- Protect endangered and threatened species
- Monitor and assess performance during and after timber sale
- Maintain and continually improve forest management

## Which forest certification standards are prevalent in North America?

There are several certification standards used within the industry:

- Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®)
- Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®)
- Programme for Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

## What are the different types of certification?

There are 3 different types of certification programs:

- **Forest Management** – Applies to organizations that own or manage forestlands. Requires proper management of water quality, habitats, biodiversity and forestry laws.
- **Fiber Procurement/Controlled Wood** – Applies to organizations that do not own forestland but procure wood directly from the forest from non-certified forestland. Organizations must show that wood in the supply chain comes from legal and responsible sources .
- **Chain of Custody** – An accounting system that tracks forest fiber content (forest content, certified sourcing and recycled content) through production and manufacturing of the end product

## What certifications are held by Pactiv Evergreen?

- FSC Chain of Custody  
(FSC-C125335)
- SFI Chain of Custody & Certified Sourcing<sup>1</sup>  
(SFI-00156)
- PEFC Chain of Custody  
(PEFC/29-32-203)

Learn more at [pactivevergreen.com/sustainability](https://pactivevergreen.com/sustainability)  
Any questions? Email us at [sustainability@pactivevergreen.com](mailto:sustainability@pactivevergreen.com)

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