

Welcome to your CDP Forests Questionnaire 2023

F0. Introduction

F_{0.1}

(F0.1) Give a general description of and introduction to your organization.

About International Paper:

International Paper (NYSE: IP) is a leading global producer of renewable fiber-based packaging and pulp products with manufacturing operations in North America, Latin America, Europe and North Africa. We produce corrugated packaging products that protect and promote goods, and enable world-wide commerce; and cellulose fiber- sustainable, renewable raw material used in a variety of products people depend on every day, including baby diapers, towel and tissue products, feminine care, adult incontinence and other personal hygiene products that promote health and wellness.

We are headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee. In the United States. In the United States, at December 31, 2022, the Company operated 24 pulp and packaging mills, 164 converting and packaging plants, 16 recycling plants and three bag facilities. Production facilities at December 31, 2022 in Canada, Europe, North Africa and Latin America included four pulp and packaging mills, 37 converting and packaging plants, and two recycling plants.

We operate a printing and packaging products distribution business principally through six branches in Asia. All our mills are certified to one or more third-party chain of custody standards.

Unless otherwise indicated, information is from the 2022 calendar year, and data are accurate as of December 31, 2022. For more information about International Paper, our products and sustainability efforts, please visit international paper.com.

F0.2

(F0.2) State the start and end date of the year for which you are reporting data.

	Start Date	End Date
Reporting year	January 1, 2022	December 31, 2022

F_{0.3}

(F0.3) Select the currency used for all financial information disclosed throughout your response.



USD

F_{0.4}

(F0.4) Select the forest risk commodity(ies) that you are, or are not, disclosing on (including any that are sources for your processed ingredients or manufactured goods); and for each select the stages of the supply chain that best represents your organization's area of operation.

Timber products

Commodity disclosure

Disclosing

Stage of the value chain

Processing Manufacturing

Are you disclosing information on embedded commodities?

No, because we have no embedded commodities

Other - Rubber

Commodity disclosure

This commodity is not produced, sourced or used by our organization

F_{0.5}

(F0.5) Select the option that describes the reporting boundary for which forestsrelated impacts on your business are being reported

Financial control

F_{0.6}

(F0.6) Select the countries/areas in which you operate.

Canada

Chile

China

France

Italy

Mexico

Morocco

Poland

Portugal

Singapore

Spain

United States of America



F_{0.7}

(F0.7) Are there any parts of your direct operations or supply chain that are not included in your disclosure?

No

F_{0.8}

(F0.8) Does your organization have an ISIN code or another unique identifier (e.g., Ticker, CUSIP, etc.?)

Indicate whether you are able to provide a unique identifier for your organization	Provide your unique identifier
Yes, a Ticker Symbol	IP

F1. Current state

F1.1

(F1.1) How does your organization produce, use or sell your disclosed commodity(ies)?

Timber products

Activity

Using as input into product manufacturing

Form of commodity

Pulp

Paper

Primary packaging

Secondary packaging

Source

Smallholders

Multiple contracted producers

Contracted suppliers (processors)

Contracted suppliers (manufacturers)

Country/Area of origin

Canada

United States of America

% of procurement spend

71-80%

Comment



At International Paper, our entire business depends on the sustainability of forests. We transform renewable resources into fiber based products that people depend on every day. As all of our products are fiber-based, timber is used as the primary component and therefore constitutes over 80% of our revenue. This figure was calculated by considering all raw materials used in the production and manufacturing of our packaging and pulp products. All of the wood fiber we use is sourced externally from forests that International Paper does not own or manage.

F1.2

(F1.2) Indicate the percentage of your organization's revenue that was dependent on your disclosed forest risk commodity(ies) in the reporting year.

	% of revenue dependent on commodity	Comment
Timber products	81-90%	

F1.5

(F1.5) Does your organization collect production and/or consumption data for your disclosed commodity(ies)?

	Data availability/Disclosure	
Timber products	Consumption data available, disclosing	

F1.5a

(F1.5a) Disclose your production and/or consumption figure, and the percentage of commodity volumes verified as deforestation- and/or conversion-free.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Data type

Consumption data

Commodity production/ consumption volume

41,856,200

Metric for commodity production/ consumption volume

Metric tons

Data coverage

Full commodity production/consumption

Have any of your reported commodity volumes been verified as deforestationand/or conversion-free?

Yes



% of reported volume verified as deforestation- and/or conversion-free 79

Please explain

Of the 41 million metric tons of wood fiber that International Paper purchased in 2022:

- 32% from forests managed to FSC,® PEFC™ or SFI® Forest Management standards
- 47% verified through ForSite™ Geographic Information System (GIS) sourcing tool and sawmill due diligence procedures.

The remaining 21% of fiber volume complies with International Paper's Global Fiber Procurement Policy; we will continue to increase verification efforts toward our Vision 2030 goal in future reporting years.

We only count material as verified to be deforestation/conversion free if the harvest location has been checked with staff performing due diligence at the tract level. We will continue to increase these efforts as part our goal to source 100% of our fiber from sustainably managed forests or recovered fiber while safeguarding forests, watersheds and biodiversity. The areas that have verification efforts still needed and remain are primarily smallholders in the US southeast forest. Additional statistics to place our sourcing in context are located below.

- -100% meets the FSC Controlled Wood Standard and International Paper 's Global Sourcing Policy
- 100% direct sourcing from uncertified forests traceable to origin
- 100% direct sourcing verified no conversion of HCVFs
- 100% indirect sourcing traceable to a country and county level of origin
- 100% suppliers monitored meet International Paper Supplier Code of Conduct
- 96.7% from forests within the U.S (97.3% Southeast U.S, 2.7% Oregon)
- 3.3% from forests in Canada (Alberta Province)
- 0% sourcing from Peatlands or High Carbon Stock Forest
- 0% sourcing from Intact Forest Lands (IFLs)

F1.5b

(F1.5b) Provide a breakdown of your DCF and non-DCF volumes relevant to your stage in the supply chain according to how verification is achieved and the highest level of traceability, respectively.

Timber products - DCF

% of DCF production/consumption volume from areas with no or negligible risk of deforestation/conversion

21

% of DCF production/consumption volume verified through monitoring systems

47

% of DCF production/consumption volume physically certified



32

Total percentage of production/consumption volume reported (DCF) [auto-calculated]

100

Timber products - Non DCF

% of non-DCF production/consumption volume from unknown origin

% of non-DCF production/consumption volume traceable only as far as country level

0

% of non-DCF production/consumption volume traceable only as far as subnational area

Λ

% of non-DCF production/consumption volume traceable only as far as processing facility level

10

% of non-DCF production/consumption volume traceable to production unit level

90

Total percentage of production/consumption volume reported (non-DCF) [(auto-calculated)]

100

F1.5c

(F1.5c) For your disclosed commodity(ies), indicate the percentage of the production/consumption volume sourced by national and/or sub-national jurisdiction of origin.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Country/Area of origin

Any other countries/areas

State or equivalent jurisdiction

% of total production/consumption volume

100



Please explain

For all virgin fiber sourced the following country level breakdown is present along with the state, region, or province listed:

- 96.7% from forests within the U.S (97.3% Southeast U.S, 2.7% Oregon)
- 3.3% from forests in Canada (Alberta Province)

F_{1.6}

(F1.6) Has your organization experienced any detrimental forests-related impacts?

F1.7

(F1.7) Indicate whether you have assessed the deforestation or conversion footprint for your disclosed commodities over the past 5 years, or since a specified cutoff date, and provide details.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Have you monitored or estimated your deforestation/conversion footprint?

Yes, we monitor deforestation/conversion footprint in our supply chain

Coverage

Partial consumption volume

Reporting deforestation/conversion since a specified cutoff date or during the last five years?

Since a specified cutoff date, please specify year 2020

Known or estimated deforestation/ conversion footprint (hectares)

0

Describe methods and data sources used to monitor or estimate deforestation/ conversion footprint

As a sourcing company that does not own forestland we do not have ability to directly calculate a conversion footprint but are tracking against sourcing in our vision 2030 goal. We do know that the US Southeast from which we source primarily is deemed as a specified risk for conversion as part of the FSCUS Controlled Wood National Risk assessment has deemed Specified Risk for specific counties within the Pacific Coast and Southeast Regions. This risk is at a county level within the framework and is tracked. U.S. Department of Agriculture has conducted a Natural Resources Inventory since 1982 that shows trends in land use on a state-by-state basis. Forestland cover changes depend on the state, and generally track other forestland change estimates. In every state, agricultural land diminished in that time frame, from a national total of 420 million acres in 1982 to 357 million acres by 2007. Concurrently, developed (urban) land



increased by 40 million acres to 111 million acres. [13,17] These data indicate that conversion to agricultural lands is likely no longer a driver for conversion of forested lands. Additionally, while tree plantations are expected to continue to increase in extent in the US, this will most likely occur through afforestation (from agricultural lands), not conversion of existing forests [18]. This leaves urbanization as the strongest pressure for forest conversion, a conclusion that is supported by numerous sources. Therefore, population growth and the associated urban development present the best possible proxy for the risk of forest conversion in this risk assessment and thus a potential conversion footprint. This estimated conversion footprint is listed as partial consumption volume because there may be sawmill suppliers that provide material to international paper where it cannot be determined their sourcing but it is known to be compliant with the FSC Controlled Wood standard. This is also the known deforestation in the area that is a true loss while this material may not have entered International paper supply chains. This is an estimation based on the amount of urban infill that is occurring in counties where there is risk and is what a total footprint may be. It can be noted that this is a not direct sourcing driver as a result of purchasing forest based material.

F2. Procedures

F2.1

(F2.1) Does your organization undertake a forests-related risk assessment?

Yes, forests-related risks are assessed

F2.1a

(F2.1a) Select the options that best describe your procedures for identifying and assessing forests-related risks.

Timber products

Value chain stage

Direct operations Supply chain

Coverage

Full

Risk assessment procedure

Assessed as part of other company-wide risk assessment system

Frequency of assessment

Annually

How far into the future are risks considered?

3 to 6 years

Tools and methods used



Internal company methods
Global Forest Watch Pro
National specific tools and databases
Other, please specify
NatureServe state level species data

Issues considered

Availability of forest risk commodities

Quality of forests risk commodities

Impact of activity on the status of ecosystems and habitats

Regulation

Climate change

Stakeholders considered

Local communities
NGOs
Other forest risk commodity users/producers at a local level
Suppliers

Please explain

Because at an overall level, risk assessments in the US and Canada view biodiversity and High Conservation Value forest related impacts as the element impacted most by forest management and harvesting related activity. International Paper considers these to be the most significant risks for us to monitor because of our defined sourcing areas and where we operate.

All sourcing locations globally are both certified to and compliant with the FSC Controlled Wood Standard. As part of this standard compliance, the FSC Global forest Risk registry is used to both analyze procurement areas and take actions by performing due diligence when a fiber supply risk is identified. All sites where risks are identified are subject to external third party audits where the auditor assesses conformance to any risk mitigation actions taken during normal audit cycles. The FSCUS Controlled Wood National Risk assessment is also used to hone in and evaluate on risk as well as data we have assembled within our own ForSiteTM platform. Conversion of forest to non forest use is also being monitored via both the current national risk assessments and forest inventory and analysis data.

To guide our responsible fiber procurement on uncertified forestlands, International Paper built ForSite™, a proprietary GIS-based mapping and due diligence system. The unique technology lets us assess a tract of forestland prior to harvest to identify ecological attributes — such as rare or endangered species, priority forest types, or areas of significant biodiversity or landscape connectivity. Armed with this information, we can better ensure that we maintain or enhance the forests where we are sourcing fiber.

The ForSite™ data we have assembled includes; Rare, threatened and endangered species, Priority forest types and landscapes, Soil types, topography and hydrology



Annually we are reviewing our GIS mapping program to make sure that we have the most up to date datasets which can be aggregated so that our fiber buyers have the best available data to perform due diligence in our supply chain.

F2.2

(F2.2) For each of your disclosed commodity(ies), has your organization mapped its value chains?

	Value chain mapping	
Timber products Yes, we have mapped the entire value chain		

F2.2a

(F2.2a) Provide details of your organization's value chain mapping for its disclosed commodity(ies).

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Scope of value chain mapping

Tier 1 suppliers Tier 2 suppliers Smallholders Customers

% of total suppliers covered within selected tier(s)

100

Description of mapping process and coverage

ForSite™ is an innovative mapping tool used by our Fiber Supply team to verify and track the fiber they are sourcing. This system guides our responsible fiber procurement on non-certified forestland in the U.S. It ensures that conservation approaches, similar to those practiced on third-party certified lands, are incorporated in forest management and harvest practices on non-certified lands. This system uses GIS technology to display and organize a variety of spatial data – critical information that our fiber supply team uses to make informed decisions prior to the fiber entering our supply chain.

ForSite™ data includes an array of environmental and spatial attributes, including:

- -Rare, threatened and endangered species
- -Priority forest types and landscapes
- -Soil types, topography and hydrology
- -Satellite imagery updated weekly
- -Optimized delivery location



By knowing the exact location of the direct fiber we purchase, we ensure not only that our fiber is derived from sustainably managed forests, but also that it is delivered to the most cost-effective facility location. Our tier 1 and 2 suppliers are vetted through this platform and it provides us information on the lands that our suppliers are sourcing from.

Your own production and primary processing sites: attach a list of facility names and locations (optional)

Your suppliers' production and primary processing sites: attach a list of names and locations (optional)

F2.3

(F2.3) Do you use a classification system to determine risk of deforestation and/or conversion of other ecosystems for your sourcing areas, and if yes, what methodology is used, and what is the classification used for?

Use of a classification system to determine deforestation and/or conversion risk of sourcing areas	Methodology used for classifying levels of risk	Use of risk classification	Attachment indicating risk classification for each sourcing area (optional)
Yes, we use a classification system	As a company that is certified to the FSC, PEFC, and SFI chain of custody standards we currently follow those standards requirements. This includes the FSC US Controlled Wood National Risk assessment methodology.	Using the FSC National Risk assessment and our own GIS mapping tool to crosswalk sourcing against this framework and our own internal Due Diligence procedures allows International Paper to stop and ask questions on risk where needed on uncertified lands and sourcing areas. In addition to the controlled wood standard material is also vetted against International papers own sourcing policy and critical biodiversity concerns to ensure that no conversion will occur in HCVF areas.	() 1

US NRA - Specified Risk Area Maps.pdf



F3. Risks and opportunities

F3.1

(F3.1) Have you identified any inherent forests-related risks with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?

	Risk identified?
Timber products	No

F3.1a

(F3.1a) How does your organization define substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?

We define substantive or strategic impact as something with the potential to affect our sales or profits by 1% or more in any given year. For example, a major natural disaster (successive hurricanes, storms, etc) across the Southeast US, or Alberta Canada, that were to cut off the supply of fiber or require us to source fiber from forests in a different geographical region at several of our large mills simultaneously for an extended period (ie, more than one month) could have a substantive impact. Note that this is an extreme hypothetical, and is not something we've experienced or anticipate. Risk identification and assessment of forest-related risks are evaluated in all of the areas in which we operate.

We rely heavily on the use of certain raw materials (principally virgin wood fiber, recycled fiber, caustic soda and starch), energy sources (principally biomass, natural gas, electricity and fuel oil) and third-party companies that transport our goods. The market price of virgin wood fiber varies based upon availability and source. The global supply and demand for recycled fiber may be affected by trade policies between countries, individual governments' legislation and regulations, as well as changes in the global economy. International Paper utilizes the COSO and COBIT models for internal controls which are designed to mitigate risk. Enterprise risks are reviewed with the company Board of Directors and Audit & Finance Committee three times per year. With regard to procedures for managing risks and opportunities related to climate change, International Paper evaluates risk and opportunities considering potential impact and likelihood of occurrence within our strategic planning period of 4 years. Beyond 4 years, certain risks may be considered emerging in nature. IP senior management with responsibility for environment, health, safety, sustainability, manufacturing and government relations identify and evaluate risks and opportunities that are relevant to IP. At an operational (asset) level, International Paper management is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations including the identification, understanding and mitigation of risks. If the likelihood and impact are significant enough to meet IP's "enterprise" criteria, then actions are taken to ensure that IP is able to mitigate those risks.



F3.1c

(F3.1c) Why does your organization not consider itself to be exposed to forests-related risks with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact?

	Primary reason	Please explain
Timber	Risks exist, but	We define substantive or strategic impact as something with the
products	no substantive	potential to affect our sales or profits by 1% or more in any given year.
	impact	For example, a major natural disaster (successive hurricanes, storms,
	anticipated	etc) across the Southeast US, or Alberta Canada, that were to cut off
		the supply of fiber or require us to source fiber from forests in a
		different geographical region at several of our large mills
		simultaneously for an extended period (ie, more than one month)
		could have a substantive impact. Note that this is an extreme
		hypothetical, and is not something we've experienced or anticipate.
		Risk identification and assessment of forest-related risks are evaluated
		in all of the areas in which we operate.

F3.2

(F3.2) Have you identified any forests-related opportunities with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on your business?

	Have you identified opportunities?
Timber products	Yes

F3.2a

(F3.2a) For your selected forest risk commodity(ies), provide details of the identified opportunities with the potential to have a substantive financial or strategic impact on your business.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Type of opportunity

Markets

Where in your value chain does the opportunity occur?

Direct operation

Supply chain

Other parts of the value chain

Primary forests-related opportunity

Increased availability of products with reduced environmental impact (other than certified products)



Company-specific description

Our ambition is to be the supplier of choice for our customers by creating innovative, sustainable and recyclable products that help our customers achieve their objectives. Our business model is naturally circular, in that we produce products from renewable resources that may be recovered and re-incorporated into our value chain. We believe we have a unique opportunity to offer fiber-based, low-carbon solutions for customers' packaging, pulp and paper needs. We hope that this will create interest either from customers who are interested in substituting petroleum based products with renewable options, or from existing customers who feel pressure to be providing more sustainable options to consumers in the form of packaging.

Estimated timeframe for realization

4-6 years

Magnitude of potential impact

Medium

Likelihood

More likely than not

Are you able to provide a potential financial impact figure?

No, we do not have this figure

Potential financial impact figure (currency)

Potential financial impact figure - minimum (currency)

Potential financial impact figure – maximum (currency)

Explanation of financial impact figure

Cost to realize opportunity

Strategy to realize opportunity

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Type of opportunity

Markets

Where in your value chain does the opportunity occur?

Direct operation



Supply chain
Other parts of the value chain

Primary forests-related opportunity

Increased demand for certified materials

Company-specific description

Our ambition is to be the supplier of choice for our customers by creating innovative, sustainable and recyclable products that help our customers achieve their objectives. We believe we have a unique opportunity to offer certified products upon customer demand within any market channel or to any type of certification our customers request through engagement with our business. In order to do this we have grown certified forestland around all of the forest areas that we source from and upon further customer requests will continue to grow certified forest area.

To meet the growing customer demand for certified products, our own internal FSC forest management group, Certified Forest Management (CFM) LLC, helps small, private landowners become FSC-certified costeffectively. It has become the largest privately run group of certified landowners in the U.S CFM has enrolled and maintained FSC forest management certification for 580 properties in 11 states, encompassing approximately 941,000 acres.

Estimated timeframe for realization

1-3 years

Magnitude of potential impact

Medium-low

Likelihood

Very likely

Are you able to provide a potential financial impact figure?

No, we do not have this figure

Potential financial impact figure (currency)

Potential financial impact figure - minimum (currency)

Potential financial impact figure - maximum (currency)

Explanation of financial impact figure

Cost to realize opportunity

Strategy to realize opportunity



F4. Governance

F4.1

(F4.1) Is there board-level oversight of forests-related issues within your organization?

Yes

F4.1a

(F4.1a) Identify the position(s) of the individual(s) (do not include any names) on the board with responsibility for forests-related issues.

Position of individual or committee	Responsibilities for forest-related issues
Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO)	The Public Policy and Environment (PPE) Committee of the Board has overall responsibility for Global Citizenship and forests -related issues. The PPE Committee reviews and assesses public policy, legal, health and safety, technology, environment and sustainability issues. It also reviews the Company's policies and procedures for complying with certain of its legal and regulatory obligations, including our internal Code of Conduct, and charitable and political contributions. Our Chief Sustainability Officer briefs this committee twice annually. The Board's Governance Committee also has oversight of certain forests and sustainability matters.

F4.1b

(F4.1b) Provide further details on the board's oversight of forests-related issues.

	Frequency that forests-related issues are a scheduled agenda item	Governance mechanisms into which forests- related issues are integrated	Please explain
Row 1	Scheduled - all meetings	Monitoring implementation and performance Overseeing acquisitions, mergers, and divestitures Overseeing major capital expenditures	Our Board and its committees receive regular reports from senior managers on areas of material risk, including operational, financial, strategic, competitive, reputational, legal and regulatory risks, and how those risks are managed. The Public Policy and Environment (PPE) Committee of the Board has overall responsibility for Global Citizenship and sustainability/environmental issues, including forest items. The PPE Committee reviews and assesses public policy, legal, health and safety, technology, environment and sustainability issues including forests. It also reviews the Company's policies and procedures



		Reviewing and guiding annual budgets Reviewing and guiding corporate responsibility strategy Reviewing and guiding major plans of action Reviewing and guiding risk management policies Reviewing and guiding strategy Setting performance objectives	for complying with certain of its legal and regulatory obligations, including our internal Code of Conduct, and charitable and political contributions. This committee has its own charter, which is reviewed annually to assure ongoing compliance with applicable law and sound governance practices. Meeting agendas are development by the committee chair in consultation with committee members and senior leaders, who regularly attend the meetings. In 2020 this committee met 4 times (quarterly) and had a 100% attendance rate. Our CSO briefs this committee twice annually. The Board's Governance Committee also has oversight of certain public policy and sustainability matters. Internal Performance evaluations of the full Board and its committees are conducted annually.
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F4.1d

(F4.1d) Does your organization have at least one board member with competence on forests-related issues?

Row 1

Board member(s) have competence on forests-related issues Yes

Criteria used to assess competence on forests-related issues

Knowledge and background in natural resource management and an understanding of key sustainability items as it pertains for forests.

F4.2

(F4.2) Provide the highest management-level position(s) or committee(s) with responsibility for forests-related issues (do not include the names of individuals).

Name of the position(s) and/or committee(s)	Forests-related responsibilities of this position	Frequency of reporting to the board on forests-related issues	Please explain
Chief Sustainability Officer (CSO)		Half-yearly	Our CSO is the company officer responsible for guiding and executing our sustainability strategy, including the development and implementation of our Vision 2030 goals.



	corporate voluntary sustainability goals (ie. Vision 2020 and Vision 2030): goal-setting and revision, progress against targets, challenges and opportunities, and	
	The CSO's regular reporting to the Board (twice annually) includes updates and discussion on forest -related issues and our corporate voluntary sustainability goals (ie, Vision 2020 and Vision 2030): goal-setting and revision, progress against targets, challenges and opportunities, and partnerships development. To monitor and	
	track our progress across the above- mentioned areas, we annually collect, review and validate company-wide environmental performance data.	

F4.3

(F4.3) Do you provide incentives to C-suite employees or board members for the management of forests-related issues?

	Provide incentives for management of forests-related issues	
Row 1	No, not currently but we do plan to introduce them in the next two years	

F4.4

(F4.4) Did your organization include information about its response to forests-related risks in its most recent mainstream financial report?

Yes (you may attach the report – this is optional)

F4.5

(F4.5) Does your organization have a policy that includes forests-related issues?

Yes, we have a documented forests policy that is publicly available

F4.5a

(F4.5a) Select the options to describe the scope and content of your policy.

Row 1

Scope

Company-wide



Commodity coverage

Timber products

Content

Commitment to eliminate deforestation

Commitment to remediation, restoration and/or compensation of past harms Secure Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) of indigenous people and local communities

Adoption of the UN International Labour Organization principles Commitment to best management practices for soils and peat

Document attachment

Please explain

Our policy is attached to this forests questionnaire. As it relates to FPIC and Adoption of the UN International Labour Organization Principles those items fall within certification as a validation point. Because international Paper is certified to the FSC, SFI, and PEFC standards there are checks and balances in place for thes provisions at that level. International Paper only sources from forests in the US and Canada as stated in other areas of this survey.

F4.6

(F4.6) Has your organization made a public commitment to reduce or remove deforestation and/or forest degradation from its direct operations and/or supply chain?

Forest risk commodity	Public commitments made
Timber products	No

F5. Business strategy

F5.1

(F5.1) Are forests-related issues integrated into any aspects of your long-term strategic business plan, and if so how?

	Are forests- related issues integrated?	Long-term time horizon (years)	Please explain
Long-term business objectives	Yes, forests- related issues are integrated	5-10	As one of the world's largest packaging, pulp and paper companies, we acknowledge our impacts and dependencies on natural and human capital and our responsibility to promote the health of people and the



Strategy for	Voc. forcets	5.10	planet. We believe protecting and enhancing forestland is vital to the long-term prosperity of our company, our communities and the planet. Our industry plays a critical role in supporting employment and business opportunities while promoting the long-term sustainability of the resources we use. Advancements in technology and emerging consumer trends continue to impact how people view and value forests around the globe. From rising demand for e-commerce packaging, to innovative uses for wood fiber, our industry is evolving faster than ever before. We are constantly evaluating ways to promote the long term sustainability of natural capital and keep working forests working. One example of how we are investing in forest restoration and habitat enhancements is through our partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Forestland Stewards. Forestland Stewards works with a variety of stakeholders — private landowners, government agencies and conservation groups — to develop science-based conservation business plans to guide conservation investments. In 2022, International Paper announced the renewal of the Forestland Stewards Partnership (FSP) with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for another five-year period, and committed \$10 million for wildlife and working forestland conservation. The award-winning FSP, one of the most effective public-private forest conservation efforts in the U.S., will continue to help catalyze targeted investments that benefit wildlife, people and the planet. Now entering its second decade, FSP has funded 156 projects across 12 states that will restore, enhance or protect more than 1.2 million acres of forest habitat once all projects are completed.
Strategy for long-term objectives	Yes, forests- related issues are integrated	5-10	Among our long-term objectives is our ambition to meet our customer's needs for products made with certified fiber. We recognize that we can't achieve landscape scale increases alone- and so we've partnered with credible organizations and key customers to reach out to forest landowners to educate them on principles of sustainable forestry and help create the enabling conditions for certified forestland.
Financial planning	Yes, forests- related issues are integrated	5-10	As stated, our entire business depends upon the availability of sustainably produced and procured fiber from forests near our mills. Our Global Sourcing organization is responsible for the business planning,



forecasting of availability, and raw material procurement that we depend upon to make fiber based products. In order to live up to our financial commitments and stakeholder expectations, financial planning with respect to our most important natural resource is essential. For example, our Global Sourcing Fiber supply organization uses the best available knowledge on forest inventories, forest health, fiber availability, supplier relationships, and forest science paired with customer forecasts to assess the sustainable fiber needed to meet customer demand. This information, in addition to identified trends in our product markets, is used to develop strategic plans that help guide our companies long term financial decisions including acquisitions and divestitures, product offering, R&D, and product-facility optimization.

F6. Implementation

F6.1

(F6.1) Did you have any forests-related timebound and quantifiable targets that were active during the reporting year?

Yes

F6.1a

(F6.1a) Provide details of your forests-related timebound and quantifiable target(s) and progress made.

Target reference number

Target 2

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Year target was set

2020

Target coverage

Company-wide

Target category

Other, please specify

Conserve and restore 1 million acres (~400,000 hectares) of ecologically significant forestland.



Metric

Other, please specify Acres

Traceability point

Third-party certification scheme

Base year

2020

Base year figure

0

Target year

2030

Target year figure

1,000,000

Reporting year figure

361,023

% of target achieved relative to base year [auto-calculated]

36.1023

Target status in reporting year

Underway

Is this target linked to a commitment?

Other environmental commitments

Please explain

Conservation and restoration are two areas where we can have a significant global impact through our long-standing partnerships with organizations such as World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).

2022 Impact:

124,327 total acres of ecologically significant forestland have been conserved in 2022 -Improved forest management on 8,973 acres as part of due diligence efforts in ForSite™

- As part of our Forestland Stewards initiative with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, we conserved and restored 113,956 acres
- As part of our strategic partnership with WWF, conserved and restored 208 acres of rainforest in Brazil's Mogi Guaçu River basin



Total goal completion progress: 361,023 acres (36%) since 2020

Target reference number

Target 1

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Year target was set

2020

Target coverage

Company-wide

Target category

Other, please specify

Source 100% of our fiber from sustainably managed forests or recovered fiber while safeguarding forests, watersheds and biodiversity

Metric

Other, please specify

Percent of fiber sourced sustainably.

Traceability point

Third-party certification scheme

Base year

2020

Base year figure

34

Target year

2030

Target year figure

100

Reporting year figure

79

% of target achieved relative to base year [auto-calculated]

68.1818181818

Target status in reporting year



Underway

Is this target linked to a commitment?

Zero net/gross deforestation

Please explain

Leveraging a broad range of tools to ensure responsible harvesting and purchasing of fiber from landowners and suppliers, we continually raise our stewardship game to enhance biodiversity and advance responsible sourcing and fiber renewability.

2022 Impact:

79% of fiber sourced in 2022 is verified as derived from a sustainably managed forest, or is third-party certified to a forest management standard such as FSC®, PEFC™, SFI® or Recycled Content. The remaining 21% of fiber volume complies with International Paper 's Global Fiber Procurement

Policy; we will continue to increase verification efforts toward our Vision 2030 goal.

- 32% from forests managed to FSC,® PEFC™ or SFI® Forest Management standards
- 37% verified through ForSite™ Geographic Information System (GIS) sourcing tool and sawmill due diligence
- 10% from recycled fiber purchased in North America

Transparent Achievement points that have already occurred as a result of this goal:

- 100% meets the FSC Controlled Wood Standard and International Paper 's Global Sourcing Policy
- -100% direct sourcing from uncertified forests traceable to origin and FMU
- -100% direct sourcing verified no conversion of HCVFs
- -100% indirect sourcing traceable to a country and county level of origin
- -100% suppliers monitored meet International Paper Supplier Code of Conduct
- -96.7% from forests within the U.S.(97.3% Southeast U.S./2.7% Oregon)
- -3.3% from forests in Canada (Alberta Province)
- 0% sourcing from Peatlands or High Carbon Stock Forest
- 0% sourcing from Intact Forest Lands (IFLs)

F6.2

(F6.2) Do you have traceability system(s) in place to track and monitor the origin of your disclosed commodity(ies)?

	Do you have system(s) in place?	Supply chain coverage	Description of traceability system	Exclusions
Timber products	Yes	Volume from direct and indirect suppliers	All purchases of forest fiber are linked to a contract with a supplier and verified using GIS information software. All harvest points sourced from are documented using this software and due diligence is performed if the harvest location is in an ecologically sensitive	Not applicable



area. All forest fiber received is also certified to	
meet the FSC Controlled Wood Standard and	
species information is collected.	

F6.2a

(F6.2a) Provide details on the level of traceability your organization has for its disclosed commodity(ies).

Forest risk commodity	Point to which commodity is traceable	Countries/areas to which this traceability point applies	% of total production/consumption volume traceable
Timber products	Forest management unit	Canada	100
Timber products	Forest management unit	United States of America	70
Timber products	Mill	United States of America	30

F6.3

(F6.3) Have you adopted any third-party certification scheme(s) for your disclosed commodity(ies)?

Third-party certification scheme adopted?		% of total production and/or consumption volume certified	
Timber products	Yes	100	

F6.3a

(F6.3a) Provide a detailed breakdown of the volume and percentage of your production and/or consumption by certification scheme.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Third-party certification scheme

FSC Forest Management certification

Chain-of-custody model used

% of total production/consumption volume certified

4

Form of commodity



Hardwood logs
Softwood logs
Sawn timber, veneer, chips
Unprocessed wood fiber

Volume of production/ consumption certified

1,674,248

Metric for volume

Metric tons

Is this certified by more than one scheme?

Yes

Please explain

All material that is from an FSC certified forest also will meet the SFI Fiber Sourcing and PEFC Controlled Sourcing Standards. This row was filled out for all commodity volume sourced from an FSC Forest Management certificate and others are filled out for each other type of certification. International Paper maintains FSC, PEFC and SFI chain of custody certifications at all pulp and paper mills sourcing forest based fiber.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Third-party certification scheme

SFI Forest Management standard

Chain-of-custody model used

% of total production/consumption volume certified

28

Form of commodity

Hardwood logs Softwood logs Sawn timber, veneer, chips Unprocessed wood fiber

Volume of production/ consumption certified

11,719,700

Metric for volume

Metric tons

Is this certified by more than one scheme?

Yes

Please explain



All material that is from an SFI certified forest also be certified to the FSC Controlled Wood standard. This row was filled out for all commodity volume sourced from an SFI Forest Management certificate and others are filled out for each other type of certification. International Paper maintains FSC, PEFC and SFI chain of custody certifications at all pulp and paper mills sourcing forest based fiber. SFI is recognized by PEFC at the forest management level.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Third-party certification scheme

FSC Controlled Wood

Chain-of-custody model used

% of total production/consumption volume certified

68

Form of commodity

Hardwood logs Softwood logs Sawn timber, veneer, chips Unprocessed wood fiber

Volume of production/ consumption certified

28,462,216

Metric for volume

Metric tons

Is this certified by more than one scheme?

Yes

Please explain

All fiber that comes from an uncertified forest will be sourced and fall under both an FSC Controlled Wood, SFI Fiber Sourcing and PEFC Controlled Sources standard. International Paper maintains chain of custody certification at all mills that source fiber from the forest. All fiber that does not come from a certified forest will be certified under the standards that work through due diligence and risk mitigation.

F6.4

(F6.4) For your disclosed commodity(ies), do you have a system to control, monitor, or verify compliance with no conversion and/or no deforestation commitments?

A system to control, monitor or verify compliance



Timber	Yes, we have a system in place for our no conversion and/or deforestation
products	commitments

F6.4a

(F6.4a) Provide details on the system, the approaches used to monitor compliance, the quantitative progress, and the non-compliance protocols, to implement your no conversion and/or deforestation commitment(s).

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Operational coverage

Direct operations Supply chain

Description of control systems

IP's fiber procurement monitoring system utilizes Geographic Information System mapping technology

and risk-based due diligence filters, based on spatial data, that enable our fiber buyers to make informed

decisions on individual forest tracts. Data captured includes:

- Rare, threatened and endangered species
- Species richness
- Priority forest type
- · Landscape connectivity

Prior to harvesting, our fiber supply team uses the system to assess forest tracts for the presence of

important species or forest habitat values. The presence of such conservation values prompts a discussion

within the supply chain to ensure any risk to those values from harvesting activities will be mitigated — as

well as to determine what forest management approaches can protect or enhance the attribute. If the risk

cannot be mitigated, we do not purchase fiber from the tract.

This is also used for FSC Controlled Wood Compliance and verification.

Monitoring and verification approach

Geospatial monitoring tool Ground-based monitoring system First-party verification Second-party verification

% of total volume in compliance



% of total suppliers in compliance

Response to supplier non-compliance

Retain & engage Suspend & engage Exclude

% of non-compliant suppliers engaged

Procedures to address and resolve non-compliance with suppliers

Providing information on appropriate actions that can be taken to address non-compliance

Assessing the efficacy and efforts of non-compliant supplier actions through consistent and quantified metrics

Re-integrating suppliers back into supply chain based on the successful and verifiable completion of activities

Please explain

Prior to harvesting, our fiber supply team uses the tool to assess forest tracts for the existence of important species or forest habitat values. The presence of such conservation values prompts a discussion with the fiber supplier and/or landowner about responsible forest management approaches to enhance the attribute.

Forsite GIS mapping builds on International Paper's commitment to transparency in fiber sourcing by facilitating supplier and landowner outreach and education to advance forest stewardship in the our U.S. fiber supply chain.

If a risk is identified in sourcing and via mapping and site visits International Paper may decide to suspend or engage suppliers based on risk, or level of supplier demonstrated response to engagement.

Mapping and due diligence occurs with all round wood received from the forest that is not from a FSC or PEFC endorsed forest management standard. Because this certified percentage is 32% (4% FSC and 28% PEFC) the amount of material that is not already verified through mapping that could come from conversion is likely minimal and our monitoring and due diligence efforts are being increased to verify this.

F6.7

(F6.7) Are you working with smallholders to support good agricultural practices and reduce deforestation and/or conversion of natural ecosystems?

Are you	Type of	Smallholder	Number of	Please explain
working with	smallholder	engagement	smallholders	
smallholders?		approach	engaged	



		engagement approach			
Timber products	Yes, working with smallholders	Supply chain mapping Capacity building Financial and commercial incentives	Supplier audits Offering on-site technical assistance and extension services Disseminating technical materials Organizing capacity building events	31,218	Absolutely- 90% of our U.S. fiber comes from private forestland owners in the U.S., We continue to make substantial investments to help family landowners become certified to Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards through our forest management group, Certified Forest Management which currently has over 990,000 acres enrolled in the US, and over 488 forest landowners. International Paper's conservation partnership with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, known as Forestland Stewards, started in 2013 to conserve, enhance and restore forestlands. These forests provide critical habitats for endangered wildlife and economic opportunities for local communities and forestland owners International Paper and NFWF work with a variety of stakeholders—private landowners, government agencies and conservation groups—to develop science-based conservation business plans to guide investments that



conserve and expand ecologically important forestlands and coastal savannas. In May 2017, International Paper helped launch the Carolinas Working **Forest Conservation** Collaborative (CWFCC) along with American Forest Foundation, The Procter & Gamble Company and 3M Company. We have joined this collaboration to engage directly with family woodland owners in the U.S. Coastal Carolinas Plain to support sustainable forestry, conservation of bottomland hardwood forests, and the enhancement of habitat for at-risk species. Through the CWFCC, we intend to accomplish the following objectives: • Increase awareness and understanding of the importance of sustainable forestry and active management among 30,000 woodland owners who collectively own 2.4 million acres of forestland in the Coastal Carolinas Plain region • Work with at least 450 landowners across 36,500 acres in the project counties to connect them with technical assistance and resources to get them started in forest



		management
		• Engage at least 160
		woodland owners within
		the project area to
		enhance, restore, or
		expand bottomland
		hardwood forests and
		quality habitat for at-risk
		species on at least
		13,000 acres
		Certify at least 120
		landowners in a
		recognized forest
		certification standard.

F6.8

(F6.8) Indicate if you are working with your direct suppliers to drive action on forestsrelated issues and if so, provide details of the engagement.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Are you working with direct suppliers?

Yes, working with direct suppliers

Action(s) on forests-related issues driven by engagement

Restoring past deforestation and/or conversion of other ecosystems

Type of engagement

Capacity building
Financial and commercial incentives
Innovation and collaboration

Details of engagement

Offering on-site training and technical assistance Disseminating technical materials Organizing capacity building events Investing in pilot projects

Description of engagement

Central to our commitment to support forest ecosystems globally is collaboration with our longstanding partners. We meet this commitment by:

- -Working directly with wood suppliers and forest landowners to promote sustainable management practices
- Engaging stakeholders in the communities where we operate Collaborating with conservation organizations to enhance ecologically important areas and restore forests



worldwide

To help us achieve our goals of conserving and restoring 1 million acres of ecologically significant forestland by 2030, we've engaged in long-standing strategic partnerships — not only with local forest landowners, but also with numerous local and global organizations. We are one of the first five U.S. companies to join Forests Forward, World Wildlife Fund's signature program for corporate action in support of nature, climate and people. IP and WWF are collaborating to drive continued improvements in our responsible fiber sourcing and to develop robust science-based targets applicable to forests.

Roughly one-third of the world's population has a close dependence on forests and forest products. Through our membership in the World Business Council for Sustainable Development's Forest Solutions Group, we've joined global efforts to support the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Our support champions the critical role of healthy forest ecosystems in water quality, clean air, biodiversity and mitigating climate change.

Our Strategic Partnerships in Forest Sustainability include:
Forestland Stewards Partnership with
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
American Bird Conservancy
American Forest Foundation
Arbor Day Foundation
Celebrate Planet Earth
WBCSD Forest Solutions Group
The Nature Conservancy
WWF's Forests Forward Program

% of suppliers engaged by procurement spend covered by engagement

Explain the impact of your engagement on the selected action

2022 Impact:

124,327 total acres of ecologically significant forestland have been conserved Improved forest management on:

8,973 acres as part of due diligence efforts in ForSite™

As part of our Forestland Stewards initiative with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, we conserved and restored 113,956 acres

As part of our strategic partnership with WWF, conserved and restored 208 acres of rainforest in Brazil's Mogi Guaçu River basin

Total goal completion progress: 361,023 acres (36%) since 2020



Is this engagement helping your suppliers engage with their suppliers on the selected action?

Yes

Does this engagement contribute to achieving a reported target?

Yes, please specify target ID(s)

Conservation and restoration goal

F6.9

(F6.9) Indicate if you are working beyond your first-tier supplier(s) to drive action on forests-related issues, and if so, provide details of the engagement.

Forest risk commodity

Are you working beyond first tier?

Yes, working beyond first tier

Action(s) on forest-related issues driven by engagement

Restoring past deforestation and/or conversion of other ecosystems

Type of engagement

Innovation and collaboration

Details of engagement

Encourage suppliers to work collaboratively in sectors, landscapes, or jurisdictions

Description of engagement

In 2022, International Paper announced the renewal of the Forestland Stewards Partnership (FSP) with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for another five-year period, and committed \$10 million for wildlife and working forestland conservation. The award-winning FSP, one of the most effective public-private forest conservation efforts in the U.S., will continue to help catalyze targeted investments that benefit wildlife, people and the planet. Now entering its second decade, FSP has funded 156 projects across 12 states that will restore, enhance or protect more than 1.2 million acres of forest habitat once all projects are completed.

The ABCs of sustainability In Southern U.S. mill basins, International Paper and American Bird Conservancy (ABC) engaged our fiber supply teams, wood suppliers and landowners to continue our shared commitment to forest sustainability. It serves as the foundation for providing critical goods and services for people and habitat conditions necessary for recovery of at-risk bird species.

Explain the impact of your engagement on the selected action

2022 Impact:

124,327 total acres of ecologically significant forestland have been conserved Improved



forest management on:

8,973 acres as part of due diligence efforts in ForSite™

As part of our Forestland Stewards initiative with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, we conserved and restored 113,956 acres

As part of our strategic partnership with WWF, conserved and restored 208 acres of rainforest in Brazil's Mogi Guaçu River basin

Total goal completion progress: 361,023 acres (36%) since 2020

Does this engagement contribute to achieving a reported target?

Yes, please specify target ID(s) restoration goal 2030

F6.10

(F6.10) Do you engage in landscape (including jurisdictional) approaches to progress shared sustainable land use goals?

	Do you engage in landscape/jurisdictional approaches?	
Row 1	Yes, we engage in landscape/ jurisdictional approaches	

F6.10a

(F6.10a) Indicate the criteria you consider when prioritizing landscapes and jurisdictions for engagement in collaborative approaches to sustainable land use and provide an explanation.

	Criteria for prioritizing landscapes/jurisdictions for engagement	Explain your process for prioritizing landscapes/jurisdictions for engagement
Row 1	Company has operational presence in area Commodity sourcing footprint Opportunity to build resilience at scale Opportunity to increase market access for smallholders and local communities Opportunity for increased human well-being in area	We have prioritized landcapes where we have sourcing present that either have key species and restoration work that is needed or where there is an underserved community that we can help. Our work with NFWF on longleaf pine habitat restoration and other key species represents a good example of the work we do.



F6.10b

(F6.10b) Provide details of your engagement with landscape/jurisdictional approaches to sustainable land use during the reporting year.

Landscape/Jurisdiction ID

LJ1

Country/Area

United States of America

Name of landscape or jurisdiction area

Longleaf Pine - US Southeast

Types of partners engaged in the initiative design and implementation

Subnational government

Local forest/rural associations

Indigenous peoples

Local communities

Local producers/smallholder

National/local company(ies)

Direct supplier(s)

Indirect supplier(s)

Type of engagement

Goals supported by engagement

Improved community resilience from climate adaptation plans or mitigation efforts Adequate water availability and quality (e.g. Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services)

Increased and/or maintained protected areas

Company actions supporting approach

Co-design and develop goals, strategies and an action plan with timebound targets and milestones for the initiative

Help establish a transparent governance platform responsible for managing the initiative and its activities with clear roles, responsibilities and balanced decision-making

Description of engagement

Building on nearly a decade of investment to restore vanishing longleaf pine forests in the

southeastern United States, in 2012 the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation established

the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund, a landmark public-private partnership to accelerate restoration of the longleaf pine ecosystem. With the combined financial and technical resources of federal agencies — including the U.S. Department of Defense,



U.S.

Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation

Service and the U.S. Forest Service — and private funding from Altria Group, Bezos Earth

Fund, International Paper's Forestland Stewards Partnership, Occidental, One Tree Planted.

the Orton Foundation (an affiliate of The Moore Charitable Foundation) and Southern Company, the fund is accelerating implementation of America's Longleaf Restoration Initiative's Range-Wide Conservation Plan for Longleaf Pine while advancing the mission

objectives of each partner.

Long term goals and objectives:

- · Establish and enhance longleaf pine forests
- Restore and improve the understory
- Support the recovery of iconic and keystone species
- Increase technical assistance and outreach to private landowners
- Strengthen organizational capacity

In 2023, the Longleaf Landscape Stewardship Fund awarded \$18 million in funding to 26 new forest

conservation projects and two amendments to existing projects, leveraging over \$14.7 million

in grantee matching contributions to generate a total conservation impact of over \$32.7 million.

Together, these grants are expected to establish over 50,000 acres of new longleaf pine, and will

enhance an additional 450,000 acres through prescribed burning and other practices. Grantees will

engage private landowners through workshops, trainings and one-on-one technical assistance to

restore and maintain longleaf pine habitat on their lands. These projects will also collaborate with

and support seedling nurseries, seed orchards and tree improvement experts to produce more than

20 million longleaf seedlings over the next five years and bolster seedling production and quality

long-term, which is critical to expanding and sustaining longleaf pine restoration.

Engagement start year

2012

Engagement end year

Not defined

Estimated investment over the project period (currency)



Is a collective monitoring framework used to measure progress?

Yes, progress is monitored using an internally defined framework

State the achievements of your engagement so far, and how progress is monitored

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and support seedling nurseries, seed orchards and tree improvement experts to produce more than

20 million longleaf seedlings over the next five years and bolster seedling production and quality

long-term, which is critical to expanding and sustaining longleaf pine restoration.

F6.10c

(F6.10c) For each of your disclosed commodities, provide details of the production/consumption volumes from each of the jurisdictions/landscapes you engage in.

Indicate landscape/jurisdiction ID	Does any of your commodity production/consumption volume originate from this landscape/jurisdiction, and are you able/willing to disclose information on this volume?	Commodity	% of total production/consumption volume from this landscape/jurisdiction
LJ1	Yes, we do produce/consume from this landscape/jurisdiction, but we are not able/willing to disclose volume data		

F6.11

(F6.11) Do you participate in any other external activities and/or initiatives to promote the implementation of your forests-related policies and commitments?



Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Do you participate in activities/initiatives?

Yes

Activities

Involved in multi-partnership or stakeholder initiatives

Country/Area

United States of America

Subnational area

Not applicable

Initiatives

Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Community Member

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC)

Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

WBCSD Forests Solutions Group

Other, please specify

Arbor Day Foundation, The Nature Conservancy, WWF Forest Forward American Forest Foundation, American Bird Conservancy

Please explain

We are members of or have collaboration projects ongoing with all of the initiatives listed. This includes participating in membership meetings, stakeholder dialogues and advancing on the ground partnerships and efforts.

F6.12

(F6.12) Is your organization supporting or implementing project(s) focused on ecosystem restoration and long-term protection?

No, but we plan to implement a project(s) within the next two years

F7. Verification

F7.1

(F7.1) Do you verify any forests information reported in your CDP disclosure?

No, we are waiting for more mature verification standards/processes



F8. Barriers and challenges

F8.1

(F8.1) Describe the key barriers or challenges to eliminating deforestation and/or conversion of other natural ecosystems from your direct operations or from other parts of your value chain.

Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Coverage

Direct operations
Other parts of the value chain

Primary barrier/challenge type

Value chain complexity

Comment

As a sourcing company that does not own forestland we do not have ability to directly stop forestland owners from making a decision to convert their land for urban infill or for agriculture. We do know that the FSCUS Controlled Wood National Risk assessment has deemed specific counties in the US Southeast as Specified Risk for conversion . The U.S. Department of Agriculture has conducted a Natural Resources Inventory since 1982 that shows trends in land use on a state-by-state basis. Forestland cover changes depend on the state, and generally track other forestland change estimates. In every state, agricultural land diminished in that time frame, from a national total of 420 million acres in 1982 to 357 million acres by 2007. Concurrently, developed (urban) land increased by 40 million acres to 111 million acres. [13,17] These data indicate that conversion to agricultural lands is likely no longer a driver for conversion of forested lands. Additionally, while tree plantations are expected to continue to increase in extent in the US, this will most likely occur through afforestation (from agricultural lands), not conversion of existing forests [18]. This leaves urbanization as the strongest pressure for forest conversion, a conclusion that is supported by numerous sources. [7,9,10,11,12] Therefore, population growth and the associated urban development present the best possible proxy for the risk of forest conversion in this risk assessment and thus a potential conversion footprint. This driver of forest loss and that it is legal conversion of forest is the most difficult barrier to overcome in the United States. The reviewer should also consider that this amount of conversion over the past time period is small in comparison to other areas of the world.

F8.2

(F8.2) Describe the main measures that would improve your organization's ability to manage its exposure to deforestation and/or conversion of other natural ecosystems.



Forest risk commodity

Timber products

Coverage

Direct operations
Other parts of the value chain

Main measure

Greater transparency

Comment

Greater transparency on landowners decisions to either convert or maintain forest as forest would allow sourcing companies a better understanding of when and where to make decisions. The landowner decision to convert forestland is not always known and the only information that is known is if a landowner is completing a harvest. Because the greatest threat of conversion in the United States is conversion of small parcels for housing and urban infill more transparent information on this process could assist sourcing companies in the ability to understand if a forest harvest will later be a land use change.