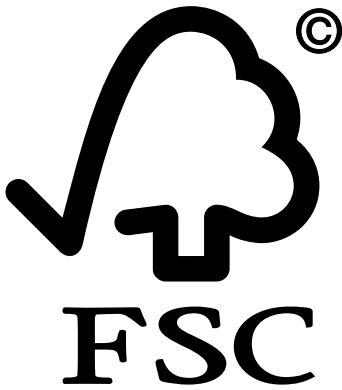




FOREST STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL U.S.





WHAT IS FSC?

FSC is a nonprofit organization devoted to encouraging the responsible management of the world's forests. FSC sets high standards that ensure forestry is practiced in an environmentally responsible, socially beneficial, and economically viable way. Landowners and companies that sell timber or forest products seek certification as a way to verify to consumers that they have practiced forestry consistent with FSC standards.



PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA —

FSC has developed a set of 10 Principles and 57 Criteria for forest management that are applicable to all FSC-certified forests throughout the world. The 10 Principles are summarized below:

Compliance with Laws and FSC Principles

Forest management must abide by all applicable laws of the country in which they occur.

Tenure and Use Rights and Responsibilities

Rights to the land are clearly defined and clearly established.

Indigenous Peoples' Rights

Indigenous peoples' rights to own, use, and manage their lands are recognized and respected.

Community Relations and Worker's Rights

Maintain and/or enhance the long-term social and economic well being of forest workers and local communities.

Benefits from the Forest

Encourage the efficient use of the forest's resources and services to ensure economic viability, and environmental and social benefits.

Environmental Impact

Conserve biological diversity, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, maintaining the ecological functions and integrity of the forest.

Management Plan

A plan is written, implemented, and kept up to date, including statements of long-term objectives.

Monitoring and Assessment

Monitoring is conducted to assess the condition of the forest, yields of forest products, chain-of-custody, management activities, and their social and environmental impacts.

Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests

Management activities enhance the attributes of high conservation value forests.

Plantations

Plantations should complement the management of, reduce pressures on, and promote the restoration and conservation of natural forests.

See www.fscus.org to download the full set of Principles and Criteria.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR WOOD COMES FROM? _____

The answer to this question is important because in many places around the world, logging is associated with habitat loss, displacement of indigenous peoples, water pollution and even violence against humans and wildlife. Responsible consumers can choose not to support such practices by selecting FSC-certified products. Major international environmental and social organizations trust the FSC label, and so can you.

HOW DOES FSC WORK? _____

Independent certification organizations are accredited by FSC to carry out assessments of forest management to determine if standards have been met. These certifiers also verify that companies claiming to sell FSC-certified products have tracked their supply back to FSC-certified sources. This chain-of-custody certification assures that consumers can trust the FSC label.

WHY FSC? _____

Trusted environmental organizations including Greenpeace, National Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, Sierra Club, and World Wildlife Fund all support and encourage FSC certification. Consumers wishing to support healthy forests and communities should look for and request the FSC label when purchasing wood or paper products.



WHAT KIND OF PRODUCTS ARE CERTIFIED? _____

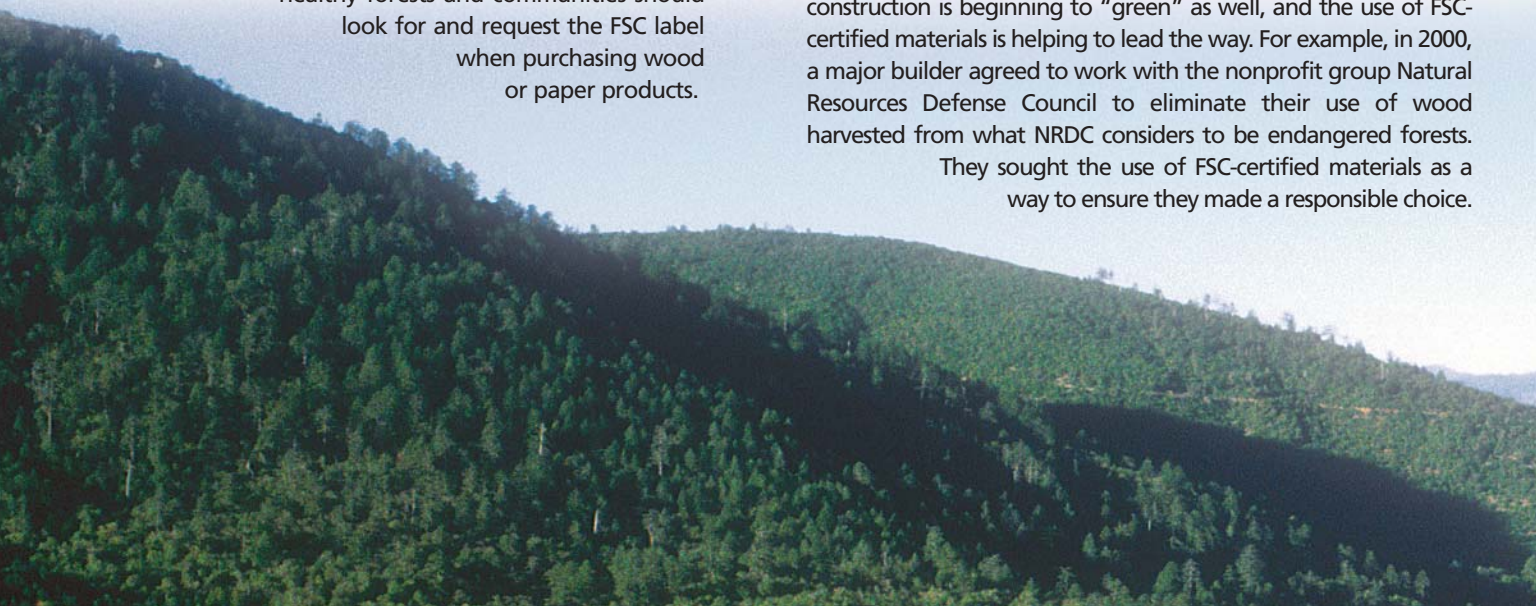
Any product made of solid wood or paper has the potential to be certified as long as wood used in the product originates from an FSC-certified source. There are currently more than 10,000 FSC-certified products available worldwide. Sample products include lumber, flooring, furniture, doors, decking, paper, cutting boards, and even guitars. You can search for FSC-certified products at www.fscus.org.

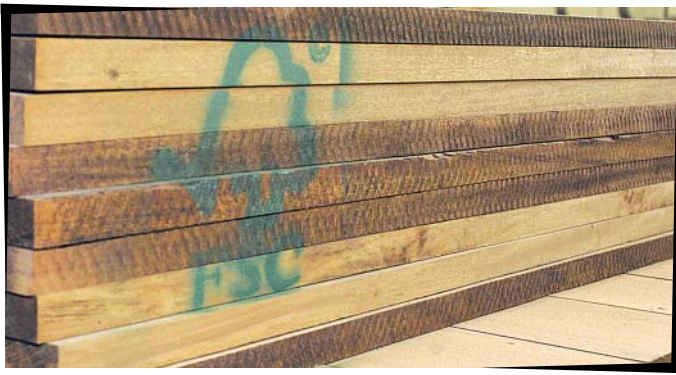
THE GREEN BUILDING MARKET _____

Thanks in part to the Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) program of the U.S. Green Building Council, there has been a surge in the specification of FSC-certified wood for use in “green” construction projects. The program, which gives points for certain sustainable and/or energy efficient construction methods, gives credit for the use of FSC-certified materials in commercial construction.

This trend is not just in commercial construction. Residential construction is beginning to “green” as well, and the use of FSC-certified materials is helping to lead the way. For example, in 2000, a major builder agreed to work with the nonprofit group Natural Resources Defense Council to eliminate their use of wood harvested from what NRDC considers to be endangered forests.

They sought the use of FSC-certified materials as a way to ensure they made a responsible choice.





THE PAPER MARKET

The US is the largest market for paper products in the world, producing 90 million tons of paper annually and, in-turn, consuming about 100 million tons. Despite improved technologies for refining post consumer recycled pulp, virgin fiber is still a significant requirement, as only 35% of current consumption is met by using recycled fiber. Roughly 25% by volume of timber cut annually in the US is used for paper production. The FSC certification system allows paper manufacturers to know they are doing the right thing, and taking business away from other companies that may still be supporting illegal, unsustainable, unverified logging activities.

Any product made of pulp or paper has the potential to be certified as long as the wood used in the product originates from FSC-certified sources. Just like other forest products, in order to use the FSC logo as an “environmental claim” on paper, the product must have flowed through the FSC “chain-of-custody” from the FSC-certified forest, to a paper manufacturer, merchant, and finally printer who all have FSC chain-of-custody certification.

More and more companies that use significant volumes of paper and board in their businesses are recognizing their responsibility to ensure that not only do they know the origins of the fiber used in their paper and board purchases, but also that they ensure that the fiber is produced in an environmentally responsible manner.

HOW ARE FSC-CERTIFIED PRODUCTS IDENTIFIED?

FSC’s main tool for achieving its mission is a product-labeling system. The public face of this system is the “checkmark and tree” registered Trademark. It is absolutely essential to FSC’s mission that the authority, integrity and credibility of the Trademark is maintained, which is accomplished through the chain-of-custody certification process. FSC-certified products can be identified by any of the following labels:



FSC 100%

Products with an FSC 100% label originate entirely from forests certified as meeting the environmental and social standards of FSC.



FSC Recycled

Products with an FSC Recycled label support re-use of forest resources and use only post-consumer recycled wood or fiber in accordance with FSC standards.

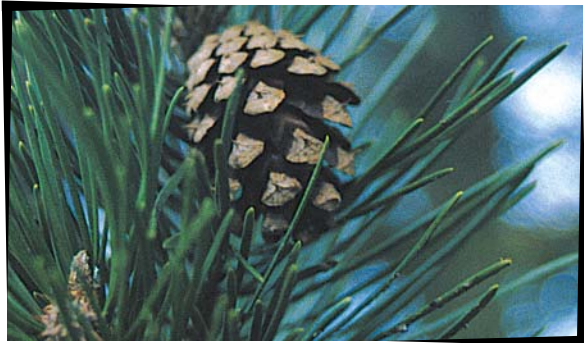


FSC Mixed Sources

Products with an FSC Mixed Sources label support the development of responsible forest management worldwide. The wood comes from FSC-certified well-managed forests, company controlled sources and/or recycled material.

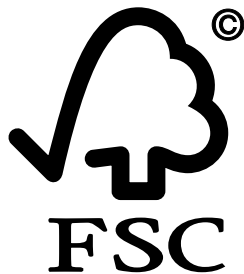
Company controlled sources are controlled, in accordance with FSC standards, to exclude illegally harvested timber, forests where high conservation values are threatened, genetically modified organisms and violation of people’s civil and traditional rights.





OUR MISSION _____

To promote and enhance well-managed forests through credible certification that is environmentally responsible, socially acceptable, and economically viable.



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Mixed Sources

Product group from well-managed
forests and recycled wood or fiber
www.fsc.org Cert no. SW-COC-1340
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