

Aspen Planers Ltd.'s Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Policy

Aspen Planers is committed to implementing and achieving the Sustainable Forestry Initiative[®] (SFI[®]) Forest Management and Fiber Sourcing Standards in our supply of wood to manufacturing facilities. Aspen promotes sustainable forestry practices that are based on science and manage for the environmental, social and economic needs of the communities where they operate.

This is accomplished in part by our commitment to manage to the SFI Principles:

1. Sustainable Forestry

To practice sustainable forestry to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs by practicing a land stewardship ethic that integrates reforestation and the managing, growing, nurturing and harvesting of trees for useful products and ecosystem services such as the conservation of soil, air and water quality, carbon, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitats, recreation and aesthetics;

2. Forest Productivity and Health

To provide for regeneration after harvest and maintain the productive capacity of the forest land base, and to protect and maintain long-term forest and soil productivity. In addition, to protect forests from economically or environmentally undesirable levels of wildfire, pests, diseases, invasive exotic plants and animals, and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term forest health and productivity;

3. Protection of Water Resources

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

4. Protection of Biological Diversity

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

5. Aesthetics and Recreation

To manage the visual impacts of forest operations, and to provide recreational opportunities for the public;

6. Protection of Special Sites

To manage lands that are ecologically, geologically or culturally important in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities;

7. Legal Compliance

To comply with applicable federal, provincial, state, and local forestry and related environmental laws, statutes, and regulations;

8. Research

To support advances in sustainable forest management through forestry research, science and technology;

9. Training and Education

To improve the practice of sustainable forestry through training and education programs;

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

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

11. Transparency

To broaden the understanding of forest certification to the SFI 2022 Standards by documenting certification audits and making the findings publicly available;

12. Continual Improvement

To continually improve the practice of forest management, and to monitor, measure and report performance in achieving the commitment to sustainable forestry;

13. Responsible Fibre Sourcing

To 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 to avoid sourcing from controversial sources both domestically and internationally.

To implement and achieve the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard Principles and their specific Objectives, Performance Measures and Indicators, Aspen has developed and adopted programs and plans to guide its forest management and wood procurement activities. These programs and plans are contained in the company's SFI Evidence Manual and the SFI Procurement Program.

The company is also committed to annually review the effectiveness of its SFI policy and programs and to continually improve its sustainable forestry program.



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