



The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) standard is the leading forest certification standard in use in Canada. First released in 1996, it is Canada's official National Standard for Sustainable Forest Management. Managed forests certified to this standard stretch from coast to coast.



Why are forests certified?

Canada has been shown to have some of the most stringent forest management regulations in the world. Even so, customers of forest products increasingly want assurances that the products they purchase come from well-managed forests. Voluntary, independent third-party certification of sustainable forest management has emerged as an innovative way of providing this assurance. The additional scrutiny that certification provides allows forest companies and managers to be recognized for their good forest management practices.

Chain of Custody

Chain of Custody is the process of tracking forest products from their place of origin through all stages of transfer and production to the final consumer as an end product.

The CSA SFM system includes a Chain of Custody standard that forest managers or wood products processors can use to have their tracking system certified by independent third-party certifiers. Once implemented it provides customers with a measure of the portion of the product that has been sourced from a certified forest, and an assurance that the uncertified portion is from legal and non-controversial sources.

Chain of Custody certification also allows the application of an on-product certification label to communicate the certified content, should customers desire it.

CSA SFM is endorsed by the world's largest forest certification organization.

PEFC is a global umbrella organization for the assessment and mutual recognition of national forest certification schemes that are developed in a multi-stakeholder process. It is the world's largest forest certification organization with over 200 million hectares of forest currently certified in 23 countries.

In addition to endorsement by PEFC – which is accepted by customers around the world, including the governments of France, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United Kingdom – the CSA standard is recognized by the United Kingdom's Central Point of Expertise on Timber Procurement as an assurance of both a legal and sustainable source of timber.



Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Sustainable Forest Management (SFM) is endorsed by the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC)



www.certificationcanada.org | www.pefccanada.org
www.certifiedwood.csa.ca



SFM CERTIFIED FORESTS

Your assurance of the highest standard in sustainable forest management in Canada.



Canada's National Standard for Sustainable Forest Management

How was the CSA SFM standard developed?

The CSA SFM standard was developed and is maintained in an open public process by a Technical Committee consisting of a broad range of stakeholders. Interests represented on the Technical Committee include forestry academics and researchers, forest companies, environmental groups, consumers, labour unions, Aboriginal people and government regulators.

The CSA SFM standard is approved by the Standards Council of Canada as a National Standard of Canada. National Standards of Canada are required to undergo a mandatory periodic review and subsequent re-approval to ensure they remain current and relevant.

The CSA SFM standard requires independent third-party certification by an accredited certifier. In its role as the regulator of Canada's National Standards system, the Standards Council of Canada is also responsible for accrediting certification bodies to carry out this certification. Canada's system provides transparency and independence between the process of developing the standard, the approval of the standard, and accreditation of the certifiers.



The Certification Standard Framework

The CSA standard uses a definition of sustainable forest management developed by the Canadian Council of Forest Ministers (CCFM). This definition was an outcome of Canada's involvement in the Montreal Process, one of eight intergovernmental processes for developing global criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management.

To become certified under the CSA standard, the forest manager must address all six CCFM criteria in developing a forest management plan that includes:

- 1 conserving biological diversity,
- 2 conserving the productivity of forest ecosystems,
- 3 maintaining the quantity and quality of soil and water resources,
- 4 maintaining forest conditions that safeguard global ecological cycles,
- 5 providing multiple benefits to society, and,
- 6 accepting the role of the public in making forest management decisions.

The CSA standard requires that, in developing the forest management plan, the forest manager engage in an intensive and balanced public participation process. Public participation is an essential part of sustainable forest management in Canada because the public owns 95% of Canada's forests. All interested parties are invited to provide input that will be used to develop locally adapted forest-specific performance indicators for each of the national criteria.

The CSA standard recognizes the unique significance that Canadian forests have for Aboriginal peoples. It requires that particular efforts be made to provide opportunities for incorporating their special knowledge into the planning process.

