



# 2017 SFI Public Summary Report

Georgia-Pacific LLC Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard (SFI FS)

**Date: October 27, 2017** 

# **Project Scope and Objectives**

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC) completed a Maintenance Assessment on Georgia-Pacific LLC's (the Company or GP) North American wood fiber sourcing by the Wood & Fiber Supply business unit (Atlanta head office and the primary facilities listed in Appendix 1 of the PwC certificate) and the global sourcing of pulp by the Georgia-Pacific Pulp Procurement business unit (Atlanta head office). The Lead Assessor was Cheryl Woode and PwC Contract Assessor was Steve Tomlin.

The primary objective was to assess the Company's SFI FS management system and to evaluate the Company's implementation of the management system in the field. There have been no changes to the list of primary facilities in Appendix 1 of the multi-site certification since the last public summary.

GP's fiber sourcing system procures material for 13 pulp and paper mills, 4 cellulose mills, 12 chip mills, one woodyard, and 41 wood products facilities. Wood & Fiber Supply is responsible for purchasing roundwood, chips, shavings, sawdust, and biomass fuel for all of GP's facilities in the U.S. that use wood and wood fiber as a raw material. Pulp Procurement is responsible for purchasing the pulp for all of GP's mills that use pulp as a raw material.

Wood and fiber are purchased in two ways: 1) purchase at plant (PAP) delivered contracts or 2) purchased stumpage (controlled) transactions. Through Purchase at Plant (PAP) contracts, GP purchases the material when it crosses the scales at each GP facility. GP has written contracts for the purchase of raw material sourced directly from the forest and includes provisions requiring the use of best management practices (BMPs). When purchasing roundwood, chips, and residual chips from PAP suppliers, all GP foresters and personnel must implement the requirements established for suppliers and monitor compliance with those requirements, including monitoring use of BMP's.

Purchased stumpage (controlled) transactions involve GP purchasing standing timber from landowner(s) or their representative(s). When buying controlled stumpage, all GP foresters will recommend, when requested, the appropriate harvesting technique based on landowner objectives and physical, ecological, and economic circumstances (i.e. thinning, shelterwood, seed tree, and clearcutting). The forester will then appraise the timber on the tract accordingly and contract with a qualified logger to perform the harvest.

GP foresters conduct periodic BMP inspections during operations on all tracts where GP controls the harvest. A final BMP inspection is conducted at the close-out of a tract and is recorded in an internal database. GP's Regional Sustainable Forestry & Environmental Managers periodically review the database and select tracts for internal auditing. The results are also shared with the GP foresters at

regional meetings. The information collected in the database is provided to F&W Forestry Services, where it is compiled into basin level BMP monitoring reports.

GP Wood & Fiber Supply procures wood from the Eastern and Southeastern United States, and from the Northwest United States. The Eastern/Southeastern region spans from New York to East Texas, and includes the entirety of Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia; and counties within Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Texas. The Northwest region includes Oregon and Washington, and counties within California, Idaho and Montana. Pulp Procurement sources pulp from within the United States, Canada, and South America.

# **Indicators**

All of the indicators in the SFI FS Standard were within the scope of the assessment, except for Objective 8, since the Company does not manage public land. There were no substitute indicators.

# **Assessment Process**

On March 7 and 8, 2017, the assessment team conducted interviews and reviewed documentation at the central office in Atlanta, Georgia. May 16 to 18, 2017, the assessment team conducted field assessments in Leaf River, MS, Monticello, MS and Port Hudson, LA. In total, the audit team spent 1-audit day at the central office and six audit days in the field. The audit report was dated October 27, 2017.

GP has a multi-site management system for fiber sourcing in North America and the global sourcing of pulp. PwC uses a rotational audit approach where the central office is audited annually and the Company's fiber sourcing operations are sampled on a 5-year rotating schedule that conforms to the International Accreditation Forum Inc.'s Mandatory Document 1 and 5.

# **Summary of Conformance, Evidence, Findings, and Good Management Practices**

Objective	Performance Measure	<b>Evidence of Conformity</b>
Objective 1:	Performance Measure 1.1.	Evidence: maps, risk assessments, documented procedures
Biodiversity in	Promotion and	
Fiber Sourcing	conservation of biological	GP has mapped endangered forests and special areas. GP
	diversity.	has conducted risk assessments to evaluate the risk of
		sourcing from these areas. In unique situations where
		credible scientific evidence demonstrates that ecological
		restoration activities are needed to improve habitat for rare,
		vulnerable, threatened or endangered species, GP may
		procure fiber from these endangered forests and special
		areas as a result of these restoration activities.
	No Nonconformities or Opt	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	Softainties for improvement were identified related to this
Objective 2:	Performance Measure 2.1.	Evidence: contracts, documented procedures, GP
Adherence to	Program Participants	monitoring inspections, interviews with loggers, on-site
Best	shall clearly define and	observation.
		observation.
Management Practices	implement policies to ensure that facility	GP has written contracts for the purchase of raw material
Fractices	inventories and fiber	sourced directly from the forest and includes provisions
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	sourcing activities do not	requiring the use of best management practices (BMP).
	compromise adherence to	Additionally locaing plans and inspection remorts address
	the principles of	Additionally, logging plans and inspection reports address
	sustainable forestry.	BMPs, where GP is responsible for the harvest, and
		internal audits assess compliance to BMPs. GP has a Wet
		Weather Policy to protect water quality and promote forest
		health. This includes protection measures based on terrain,
		vegetation, weather predictions and all other applicable
	N N G 111 G	factors.
	No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this	
	performance measure.	
	Performance Measure 2.2.	Evidence: documented procedures, monitoring inspection
	Program Participants	forms
	shall monitor the use of	
	best management	GP conducts periodic BMP inspections on all tracts where
	practices.	GP controls the harvest. Final BMP inspections are
		conducted at the close-out of a tract and a select sample of
		tracts are chosen for internal audit.
		GP utilizes state BMP compliance reports and purchased
		monitoring reports where GP does not control the harvest.
		GP foresters review these state BMP compliance reports
		with suppliers. GP uses BMP reports to track trends,
		which they use both internally and report to the state SFI
		Implementation Committees (SIC) for areas where training
		may need to be improved or modified.
	No Nonconformities or Opp	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	

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Objective 3: Use		Evidence: contracts, interviews with loggers, State lists of	
of Qualified	Performance Measure 3.1.	trained loggers.	
Resource and	Program Participants	CDitter	
Qualified	shall encourage	GP written contracts require that the raw material be	
Logging	landowners to utilize the	harvested solely by loggers who are in full compliance	
Professionals	services of qualified	with the applicable SFI State Implementation Committee's	
	logging professionals,	logger training program requirements under the	
	certified logging	Sustainable Forestry Initiative or other equivalent	
	professionals (where	certification Program. An exemption is provided for	
	available), qualified	suppliers meeting the internal de minimus policy.	
	resource professionals		
	and to apply principles of	Excluding exceptional cases, GP will not accept fiber from	
	sustainable forest	loggers who are not current with their training. GP	
	management to their	samples their multi-crew PAP Contractors annually by	
	lands.	requesting the list of their loggers to check their training.	
	_ = =	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this	
	performance measure.	T	
Objective 4:	Performance Measure 4.1.	Evidence: List and review of compliance with relevant	
Legal and	Program Participants	laws, various regulations, Environmental Policy, Health	
Regulatory	shall comply with	and Safety Policy, Harassment and Discrimination Policy.	
Compliance	applicable federal,	Staff interviewed and operations assessed in the field.	
	provincial, state and local		
	forestry and related social	Compliance to laws and policies are addressed in the GP	
	and environmental laws	Compliance Standards, GP Forest Law Training, and in the	
	and regulations and take	GP Code of Conduct. GP written contracts require legal	
	steps to avoid illegal	title to the supply and that suppliers shall comply with all	
	logging.	applicable governmental laws, rules, and regulations.	
	No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this		
	performance measure.		
	Performance Measure 4.2.	Evidence: policy statement. Operations assessed in the	
	Program Participants	field.	
	shall take appropriate		
	steps to comply with all	GP has a Code of Conduct demonstrating commitment to	
	applicable social laws at	comply with social laws, such as those covering civil	
	the federal, provincial,	rights, equal employment opportunities, antidiscrimination	
	state and local levels in	and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation,	
	the country in which the	Indigenous Peoples' rights, workers' and communities'	
	Program Participant	right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to	
	operates.	organize, and occupational health and safety.	
		Additionally GP has an internal guide line and systems for	
		the reporting of non-compliance.	
	No Nonconformities or On	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this	
	performance measure.		
Objective 5.	Performance Measure 5.1.	Evidence: Summary of research projects, inspection	
Forestry	Program Participants	records, and interviews. Wildlife researcher on staff.	
Research,	shall – individually and/or	,y	
Science and	through cooperative	GP has a corporate membership in National Council for	
Technology Technology	efforts involving SFI	Air and Stream Improvement, Inc. (NCASI) to support	
<i></i>	Implementation	NCASI's scientific research and information gathering	
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Committees, associations or other partners — provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve forest health, productivity, and sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products.

activities. In turn, GP has access to environmental and sustainability information that results from NCASI's activities.

Additionally, GP supports and contributes financially to SIC and State Forestry Associations in the states where fiber is sourced. GP also supports and participates in various forest foundations, research programs, as well as participating in various wildlife projects at several GP mills sites.

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

Performance Measure 5.2. Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners develop or use state, provincial or regional analyses in support of their sustainable forestry programs.

Evidence: Summary of research projects, memberships and staff interviews.

GP has memberships and participates in national, state, regional, and local forestry associations, logging associations, and conservation groups through their continued support and participation in state SICs.

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

Performance Measure 5.3. Program Participants shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners broaden the awareness of climate change impacts of forests, wildlife and biological diversity.

Evidence: staff interviews, wildlife researcher on staff, membership and participation with research organizations.

GP works with NCASI to determine if credible, sciencebased models are available that are applicable to GP's business.

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

# Objective 6. Training and Education

Performance Measure 6.1. Program Participants shall require appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that they are competent to fulfill their responsibilities under the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard.

Evidence: Sustainable Forest Management & Environmental Policies, Health and Safety Policy, staff and contractor training records. Staff were interviewed and operations assessed in the field.

GP personnel education and training is sufficient to their roles and responsibilities. For example, all newly hired foresters complete an approved SIC logger training introductory course. On-going education is provided throughout the year through communications, meetings, and knowledge sharing.

GP written contracts require all raw materials suppliers (roundwood & chips) to deliver wood that is harvested solely by loggers who are in full compliance with the applicable state's Implementation Committee's logger training program requirements under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative or other equivalent certification program. GP is committed to checking the SFI logger training status of their PAP contractors' contractors (subcontractors). An exemption is provided for suppliers meeting the internal de minimus policy.

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

Performance Measure 6.2. Program Participants shall work individually and/or with SFI Implementation Committees, logging or forestry associations, or appropriate agencies or others in the forestry community to foster improvement in the professionalism of wood producers.

Evidence: Staff were interviewed and operations assessed in the field.

GP works with and supports SFI State Implementation Committees to foster improvement in the professionalism of wood producers.

Additionally, GP sponsors workshops and training to promote continuing education.

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

# Objective 7. Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach

Performance Measure 7.1. Program Participants shall support and promote efforts by consulting foresters, state, provincial and federal agencies, state or local groups, professional societies, conservation organizations, Indigenous Peoples and governments, community groups, sporting organizations, labour, universities, extension agencies, the American Tree Farm System® and/or other landowner cooperative programs to apply principles of sustainable forest management.

Evidence: SIC meeting minutes, letters to landowners, and staff interviews.

GP supports and promotes efforts by consulting with agencies, groups, and organizations to apply principles of sustainable forest management. GP supports, including financially, SIC and State Forestry Associations in the states where fiber is sourced. Both SIC and State Forestry Associations provide sustainable forest management information to landowners. Additionally, GP supports AFF and state forestry commission agencies, as well as providing financial support for the ATFS Leadership Conference and annual meeting for the Southern Group of State Foresters.

Additionally, GP sends letters offering information regarding sustainable forest management practices to landowners from whom GP buys stumpage .

No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.

	Performance Measure 7.2.	Evidence: staff interviews, SIC membership and
	Program Participants shall	participation.
	support and promote, at	
	the state, provincial or	GP supports and promotes sustainable forest management
	other appropriate levels,	through their involvement with the SIC and the Southern
	mechanisms for public	Group of State Foresters. GP has mechanisms for public
	outreach, education and	outreach, education and involvement related to sustainable
	involvement related to	forest management.
	sustainable forest	
	management.	
		Dortunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.	
	Performance Measure 7.3.	Evidence: staff interviews, SIC membership and
		==
	Program Participants shall	participation.
	establish, at the state,	CD participation in the state CIC's inconsistant association
	provincial, or other	GP participation in the state SIC's inconsistent practices
	appropriate levels,	program regarding practices that appear inconsistent with
	procedures to address	the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard principles and
	concerns raised by	objectives.
	loggers, consulting	Y II ODI Y II D
	foresters, employees,	Internally, GP has an Investigation, Reporting and
	unions, the public or other	Tracking compliance standard and a guide line to address
	Program Participants	concerns raised by loggers, consulting foresters,
	regarding practices that	employees, unions, the public or other Program
	appear inconsistent with	Participants.
	the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber	
	Sourcing Standard	
	principles and objectives.	
	No Nonconformities or Opp	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	
Objective 8.	Performance Measure 8.1.	Not applicable as Georgia-Pacific LLC does not have
Public Land	Program Participants	forest management responsibilities on public lands.
Management	with forest management	
Responsibilities	responsibilities on public	
1	lands shall participate in	
	the development of public	
	land planning and	
	management processes.	
		portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	The results of the re
Objective 9.	Performance Measure 9.1.	Evidence: SFI website and staff interviews.
Communications	A Program Participant	Tractice. SI I weestie and stay interviews.
and Public	shall provide a summary	PwC prepared the annual public summary report in 2016.
Reporting	audit report, prepared by	Two propared the aimaar paone sammary report in 2010.
Reporting	the certification body, to	
	SFI Inc. after the	
	successful completion of a	
	certification,	
	<u> </u>	
	recertification or surveillance audit to the	
	SFI 2015-2019 Fiber	
	Sourcing Standard.	

	No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.	
	Performance Measure 9.2.	Evidence: SFI website and staff interviews.
	Program Participants	Evidence. SFT website and stag thier views.
	shall report annually to	GP reports annually to SFI, Inc. on their conformance to
	SFI Inc. on their	the SFI standard. Records are kept for all the categories of
	conformance with the SFI	information needed for SFI annual progress report surveys.
	2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing	progress report our version
	Standard.	
		portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	
Objective 10.	Performance Measure	Evidence: Management review meeting minutes, internal
Management	10.1. Program	audit records and report, field inspection records,
Review and	Participants shall	corrective action plans, field inspections and staff
Continual	establish a management	interviews.
Improvement	review system to examine	
T	findings and progress in	GP has a mechanism in place to examine audit findings,
	implementing the SFI	make appropriate improvements and to inform their
	2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing	employees of changes to their certification management
	Standard, to make	system.
	appropriate improvements	
	in programs, and to	
	inform their employees of	
	changes.	
	No Nonconformities or Opp	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	
Objective 11.	Performance Measure	Evidence: contracts, maps of high conservation value
Promote	11.1. Program	areas, field inspections and staff interviews, files and
Conservation of	Participants shall ensure	records with regard to the purchase of pulp.
Biological	that their fiber sourcing	
Diversity,	programs support the	GP sources pulp from outside the United States and
Biodiversity	principles of sustainable	Canada and ensures that their fiber sourcing program
Hotspots and	forestry, including efforts	supports the principles of sustainable forestry, including
High-Biodiversity	to promote conservation	efforts to promote conservation of biological diversity.
Wilderness Areas	of biological diversity.	Fiber supply contract language addresses illegal logging
		and sustainable forestry. Supplier surveys address legal
		and sustainable forestry. GP reviews applicable websites to
		determine proximity of sourcing areas to known high
	biodiversity areas.  No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this	
	performance measure.	containings for improvement were identified related to this
Objective 12.	Performance Measure	Evidence: contracts, supplier surveys, monitoring
Avoidance of	12.1. Program	inspection forms, field inspections and staff interviews,
Controversial	Participants shall ensure	files and records with regard to the purchase of pulp.
Sources	that their fiber sourcing	July 2007 as man regard to the parentage of purp.
including Illegal	programs support the	GP sources pulp from outside the United States and
Logging	principles of sustainable	Canada and ensures that their fiber sourcing program
	forestry, including efforts	supports the principles of sustainable forestry, including
	to reduce the risk of	efforts to reduce the risk of illegal logging. Supplier
	· ·	
	illegal logging.	surveys address legal and sustainable forestry practices.
	illegal logging.	surveys address legal and sustainable forestry practices. Surveys are reviewed by the GP Due Diligence Team

		forestry office. GP manages risk through fiber supply contract language addressing illegal logging and sustainable forestry and surveys suppliers to determine application of sustainable forestry.
	No Nonconformities or Opportunities for Improvement were identified related to this performance measure.	
Objective 13.	Performance Measure	Evidence: contracts, supplier surveys, monitoring
Avoidance of	13.1. Program	inspection forms, field inspections and staff interviews,
Controversial	Participants shall avoid	files and records with regard to the purchase of pulp.
Sources	controversial sources and	
including Fiber	encourage socially sound	GP sources pulp from outside the United States and
Sourced from	practices.	Canada. GP avoids controversial sources including fiber
Areas without		sourced from areas without effective social laws through
Effective Social		supplier surveys, which address legal and sustainable
Laws		forestry practices. Additionally, GP performs risk-based
		annual assessments and supplier diligence to the GP
		Supplier Sustainability Guidelines.
	No Nonconformities or Opp	portunities for Improvement were identified related to this
	performance measure.	

### Specific Good management practices are noted below:

- GPs Endangered Forests Program exceeds the requirements of the SFI Fiber Sourcing Biodiversity objective, providing direct and specific information to both GP foresters and wood suppliers on critically important biodiversity issues within each fiber supply basin. The program gives guidelines on how each identified and mapped location may be impacted by harvesting, and actions that need to be taken, up to and including prohibition of harvesting.
- At Monticello, a procurement forester annually confirms current trained status for all loggers delivering to the mill or remote woodyards, as an additional and more rigorous confirmation of the use of currently qualified logging professionals. Interviews indicated that this practice occurs at other mills, also.

#### **Conclusion**

The Company has maintained conformance with the requirements of the SFI 2015-2019 Fiber Sourcing Standard. The Certificate can be can be obtained by contacting Deborah Baker of Georgia-Pacific LLC at (404) 652-4032. More information on Georgia-Pacific LLC's sustainable forestry program can be found at: http://www.gp.com/Company/Sustainability/Forestry.