

# SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE POLICY



Springer Creek Forest Products Ltd. is committed to Sustainable Forestry Initiative<sup>®</sup> (SFI<sup>®</sup>) standards in our operation. We use best management practices that promote and improve sustainable forestry. In addition, we promote these practices to private forest landowners and other crown timber tenure holders from which we purchase or trade raw material.

To achieve SFI<sup>®</sup> standards, Springer has developed a comprehensive Sustainable Forest Management Plan that is supported by an Environmental Management System that is certified to the ISO 14001 standard. Our system contains plans, manuals, policies, programs and procedures that work in concert with all applicable laws and regulations.

In support of the SFI program, we have committed to achieve the following set of 9 principles to guide our management practices.

## **1. SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY**

To practice sustainable forestry that meets the needs of the present and protects 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 wood and paper products with the conservation of soil, air and water quality, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitat, recreational opportunities and visual objectives.

## **2. RESPONSIBLE PRACTICES**

To use and promote to our raw material providers, sustainable forestry practices that are both scientifically credible and economically, environmentally, and socially responsible.

## **3. REFORESTATION AND PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY**

To provide for regeneration after harvest and maintain the productive capacity of the forest landbase.

## **4. FOREST HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY**

To protect forests from uncharacteristic and economically or environmentally undesirable wildfire, pests, diseases, and other damaging agents and thus maintain and improve long-term forest health and productivity.

## **5. LONG-TERM FOREST AND SOIL PRODUCTIVITY**

To protect and maintain long-term forest and soil productivity.

## **6. PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES**

To protect water bodies and riparian management zones.

## **7. PROTECTION OF SPECIAL SITES AND BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

To manage forests and lands of special significance (biological, geologically, historically or culturally important) in a manner that takes into account their unique qualities and to promote a diversity of wildlife habitats, forest types, and ecological or natural community types.

## **8. LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

To comply with applicable federal, provincial, and related environmental laws, statues and regulations and, laws relating to civil rights, equal employment opportunities, antidiscrimination and anti harassment measures, workers' compensation, workers' and communities' right to know.

## **9. CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT**

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