



Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry

Group Chain of Custody Certification Procedures for the
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Division of Forestry (Group Entity) Procedures

June 23, 2010

(Revised 6/2012, 3/2015, 5/2016, 6/2017, 11/2018, 6/2019, 1/21/21, 8/16/22, 9/19/22, 1/2023, 8/2025)

Certificate Number SCS-COC-002041

I. Introduction

To facilitate the efficient application of Chain of Custody (CoC) Certification for Indiana forest products industries, the Division of Forestry (DoF) initiated a Group CoC Certification Procedure. This document outlines the procedures the DoF will follow to maintain the integrity of the group. The Division of Forestry is the “Group Entity” with responsibility for administration of the group and communication and coordination with the Certifying Body. The DoF executed the SCS Chain of Custody agreement for a multi-site organization to be established as the Group Entity.

1.1. Eligibility

Membership in the DoF Group Chain of Custody certificate will be limited to forest products companies that meet the following qualifications:

- Located within the State of Indiana
- Engaged in logging, hauling or primary processing of forest products
- Make application to the Division of Forestry (DoF) requesting group membership
- Acknowledge and agree to the requirements and responsibilities of group membership
- Authorize the DoF to apply for CoC certification on the member’s behalf
- Agree to comply with Corrective Action Requests (CARs) issued by DoF, contract auditors, or the Certification Body, SCS
- Agree to provide information (as necessary to ensure compliance with FSC CoC standards) to the DoF or the Certification Body upon request. This information may include, but not limited to production records, internal policy documents, management records, invoices for services or products, agreements with outside entities; this information (excluding financial data) will be publicly available upon request.
- Submit to an initial audit and to annual audits by DoF and/or the Certifying Body
- Agree to have FSC product claims for labeling, marketing, and promotion comply with the appropriate FSC standard and be approved by SCS through the DoF.
- Ability to communicate, submit/receive documents and/or participate in virtual meetings via electronic email, smart phone, or computer as necessary
- Allow Accreditation Services International (ASI), the organization responsible for the Certifying Body’s accreditation, rights to access the site for the purposes of external evaluation and control (including unannounced audits). For this COC group certificate, the certification body and FSC publish information provided by the group manager on the name, contact details, and certificate codes of each group member on the FSC database entry. For group members that source controlled material, the certification body and the group manager each publish annual summaries on the FSC database entry. ASI may audit the certification body and/or conduct a compliance audit of the group manager, either of which would result in a report published by ASI that could reveal the names of group member companies.

1.2 Membership fees

Small member companies are defined as those companies with 25 or fewer employees, including full time, part time and seasonal staff, or with total sales less than \$10 million, or as otherwise defined by FSC. These small companies will not be required to pay an audit fee to DoF or the FSC Certification Body. The Division of Forestry will pay all costs to the Certification Body for audits. Small companies will be required to pay annual licensing fees as described below.

1.3 Annual Licensing fees

All member companies, regardless of number of employees, will be required to pay an annual licensing fee (AAF) to the Certification Body. These fees are set annually by the FSC and are based on total revenues (not solely on FSC sales) of the certified entity. The DoF will collect these fees from individual members and pay to SCS as requested. Fees are based on total value of sales of group members in the aggregate.

II. DoF (Group Entity) Responsibilities

2.1 Group Entity Authority

The Division of Forestry is the legal entity that will act as the Group Entity. The DoF entered into a contract with Scientific Certification Systems (the Certifying Body) to create and maintain a group CoC scheme compliant with FSC guidelines. The DoF will have the following authority and responsibilities:

- Communicate with and coordinate with SCS on behalf of the group and its members.
- Maintain all necessary group records, submit reports, schedule audits, and will forward any necessary information to the group members.
- Implement any actions necessary to comply with corrective action requests
- Remove any member from the group if the requirements of group membership or any corrective action are not complied with.
- Collect all annual licensing fees described in §1.3 and submit those fees to SCS.
- Notify SCS within one month of any additions or deletions to the membership list
- Provide training on CoC or Controlled Wood procedures to group members as necessary, and maintain records of member training

2.2 DoF Procedures

2.2.1 New Members. The DoF will provide the opportunity for all qualifying companies to submit application for membership. Within 30 days of receipt of a signed application for membership, DoF will initiate the steps necessary to enroll the applicant into the group.

2.2.2 Membership Application. DoF will maintain a signed membership application or consent form for each group member. A blank Membership Application is included in Appendix A.

2.2.3 Training. The DoF will provide training to group members annually or more frequently if needed. Group members will be notified of training opportunities through use of electronic and/or mail newsletters. Prospective members will be notified of group activities, training, and opportunities for membership through use of the Licensed Timber Buyer's newsletter that all licensed timber buyers receive monthly.

2.2.4. Initial Inspection. The DoF will conduct an initial inspection of all new members within 30 days of receipt of all necessary group member information. The initial inspection will involve a review of the member's procedures, records and other documents, along with an inspection of the applicant's facilities. Based on the results of the inspection, the DoF will: 1) admit the applicant into group membership with or without conditions or 2) deny group membership. Each applicant that is denied group membership will be given a statement explaining why membership was denied and what corrections would need to be made to gain membership.

2.2.5. Annual Monitoring. The DoF will conduct an audit of each group member annually. An exception may be made for group members that had no FSC certified production during the previous year. Monitoring for FSC-active members will include a review of documents, facilities, and FSC logo use and market claims. Records of the results of the DOF annual monitoring will be maintained by the DoF and be made available to SCS upon request.

2.2.6. Records. The DoF will maintain an electronic database containing the necessary information for each group member. That database will include:

- Name, address and other contact information of each group member, including the name of the contact person
- Date of entry into the group
- Sub code assigned to the member
- The scope of the member's certificate
- Dates of audit or inspection
- List of non-compliance and actions taken to correct non-compliance
- FSC product inflows and outflows
- Date the member was removed from the group along with the reason why the member was removed
- Member's choice to include FSC Controlled Wood, or FSC Mix Credit or FSC Percentage Systems

All records will be maintained for a minimum of 5 years.

2.2.7. Reporting to the Certifying Body. The DoF will submit annual reports to SCS summarizing all the information stored in the database described in §2.2.6. Reports will be submitted as requested by SCS or by March 1 of each calendar year. This date will facilitate scheduling of the group audit by SCS during first quarter of each calendar year.

2.2.8 Member use of FSC trademarks. The DoF will require members to notify the DoF of proposed use of the FSC logo or trademarks “FSC” or “Forest Stewardship Council”. The DoF will request approval for use of the trademark from SCS and will forward a copy of that approval to the member. Both the member and the DoF will maintain a copy of the approval.

2.2.9 Product Group Chart. The DoF will maintain a complete list of product groups including the input and output categories, species and control system. That list is attached as Appendix B

2.2.10 Group Member Auditing and Auditor Training. The primary responsibility for group member auditing will be assigned to the FSC CoC Administrator listed below. The DoF may utilize other employees or contractors to assist in group management or member auditing activities. If other employees or contractors are utilized, they will receive the following initial training. The DoF will document the dates and attendees for the following training:

- Review of DoF Procedures Manual
- Review CoC Group Member Procedures Manual
- Review of FSC Standard for Chain of Custody Certification (FSC-STD-40-004 (3-1) EN
- Review of Standard for Company Evaluation of FSC Controlled Wood (FSC-STD-40-005 (Version 3-1) EN)
- Review of the previous audit report for applicable members
- Review of applicable member files

2.2.11 Commitment to FSC Values

The organization shall demonstrate its commitment to comply with the Values of FSC as defined in the “*Policy for the Association of Organizations with FSC*” (FSC-POL-01-004, initially approved in July 2009).

The organization shall declare not be directly or indirectly involved in the following activities:

- Illegal logging or the trade in illegal wood or forest products;
- Violation of traditional and human rights in forestry operations;
- Destruction of high conservation values in forestry operations;
- Significant conversion of forests to plantations or non-forest use;
- Introduction of genetically modified organisms in forestry operations;
- Violation of any of the ILO Core Conventions, as defined in the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, 1998.

2.2.12 Occupational Health and Safety

The organization shall demonstrate its commitment to occupational health and safety.

2.2.13 The organization shall support transaction verification conducted by its certification body and Assurance Services International (ASI), by providing samples of FSC transaction data as requested by the certification body.

NOTE: Pricing information is not within the scope of transaction verification data disclosure.

2.2.14 The organization shall support fiber testing conducted by its certification body and ASI by surrendering samples and specimens of materials and products, and information about species composition for verification upon request.

2.2.15 The organization may act as an FSC-certified contractor providing services to other contracting organizations. In this case, the organization shall include the outsourcing services under the scope of its FSC certificate ensuring that all applicable certification requirements are met.

2.3. FSC CoC Administrator.

The Division of Forestry individual assigned the overall responsibility of FSC CoC Administrator is:

FSC CoC Administrator c/o
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington Street Room W296
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
317-232-4105
Email: forestryinfo@dnr.IN.gov

2.4 Complaints Procedure. Complaint: expression of dissatisfaction, other than appeal, by any person or organization to a certified company relating to their FSC system / products where a response is expected.

The organization has ensured that complaints received regarding its conformity to the requirements applicable to the scope of its CoC certificate have been adequately considered, including the following:

- a. acknowledged receipt of the complaint to the complainant within two (2) weeks of receiving the complaint;
- a. investigated the complaint and specified its proposed actions in response to the complaint within three (3) months. If more time is needed to complete the investigation, the complainant and the organization's certification body shall be notified;
- b. taken appropriate actions with respect to complaints and any deficiencies found in processes that affect conformity to the certification requirements; and notified the complainant and its certification body when the complaint is considered to be successfully addressed and closed.

The Division of Forestry will review the complaint and supporting evidence. If the Division of Forestry considers the complaint to be relevant, it will notify this Group Member within one week. Upon notification by the Division of Forestry, this Group Member will exclude the supply and supplier from the company's FSC Chain of Custody

program. This Group Member's and the Division of Forestry's complaints mechanism is as follows:

Complaints supported by evidence related to supplies of FSC Chain of Custody wood will be assessed by the Property Program Specialist within 2 weeks of receipt. In the event that evidence is considered relevant, a field verification will be conducted within 2 months of receipt of the complaint. Field verifications will be conducted by personnel with sufficient expertise and knowledge to be able to conduct the verification in accordance with the standard.

If the field verification concludes that the wood does not meet the requirements of FSC Chain of Custody standard, or if the field verification is not conducted within 2 months of receipt of the complaint, then the supply will be excluded from our FSC Product Groups, and no claims about this material will be made until the supply has been proven to comply with the FSC Chain of Custody requirements. Furthermore, the Division of Forestry will notify the United State FSC National Initiative and SCS of the results of the verification within 2 weeks.

Records of all complaints received and actions taken will be kept for a minimum of 5 years and made available to SCS upon request. The certification body shall require the supplier of certified products to:

- a) keep a record of all complaints made known to the supplier relating to a product's compliance with requirements of the relevant standard;
- b) make these records available to the certification body when requested;
- c) take appropriate action with respect to such complaints and any deficiencies found in products or services that affect compliance with the requirements for certification; and
- d) document the actions taken.

Anyone may submit complaints along with evidence to:

FSC CoC Administrator c/o
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington Street Room W296
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
317-232-4105
Email: forestryinfo@dnr.IN.gov

III. Controlled Wood Procedures.

3.1 Each group member will be given the option to supply FSC Controlled Wood to other FSC CoC certified companies. The DoF will provide training and necessary guidance to assure compliance with FSC-STD-40-005 (3-1) EN.

3.2 Division of Forestry policy is to avoid sourcing wood or wood fiber as specified in Part 1 of FSC-STD-40-005 (3-1) EN. That policy is posted on the DoF website and

reprinted in Appendix C. The same company policy will be required of any group member that participates in the Controlled Wood certificate.

3.3. The DoF completed a Controlled Wood Risk Assessments for the entire purchase area including many states in the U.S. Risk assessments are attached as Appendix D. The DoF will revise and update Risk Assessments at least annually. If 2 or more non-compliances with the FSC Controlled Wood requirement are discovered within one year, the DoF will review the Risk Assessment within 1 month of discovery.

3.4 The DoF established a complaints mechanism that is posted on the DoF website and attached as Appendix E.

3.5 The DoF established a regular audit process to verify the authenticity of the specified documentation to confirm the country and district of origin of wood. During annual audits of Group Members, the DoF will record the number of suppliers of Controlled Wood from each member for the previous audit year. The number of suppliers of all members will be totaled. The DoF will randomly select a number of suppliers to be audited based on multiplying 0.6 times the square root of the number, rounded up to the next higher number total (if total number = 100, then audit number = 0.6 times 10 or 6). The results of these audits will be reported to the Certifying Body (CB) during the annual audit. If the CB determines the risk of non-compliance to be higher, the audit number will be increased to a level considered appropriate by the DoF and CB.

Audits of selected suppliers or supplies will involve collection of documents related to the supply, telephone, and/or field audits of the supplier's facility/office/forest of origin as appropriate.

Appendix A. Application for Group Membership in the Indiana Division of
Forestry Group Chain of Custody for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
Certificate Number SCS-COC-002041

Business Name: _____

FSC CoC Administrator: _____
(Contact Name)

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: IN Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Fax: _____ Website: _____

Type of Business:

☐ Logging ☐ Hauling ☐ Sawmill ☐ Concentration Yard ☐ Veneer Mill

☐ Other (Specify) _____

Number of Employees: _____ Annual Sales: \$ _____

Estimated Annual Production: _____
(Annual production amount) (Unit – mbf, pieces, tons)

I hereby request to be included in the Indiana Division of Forestry (DoF) Secondary FSC Group Certificate. I acknowledge and agree to the requirements and responsibilities of group membership and to comply with the FSC standards; allow right of access to documentation and installation (site) for DoF and its contractors and respond to any Corrective Action Requests identified by the DoF or its contractors. I authorize the Division to apply for certification on my behalf. I understand that membership in this group is totally voluntary and that I may withdraw from the group for any reason with a 30-day notice to the Division of Forestry.

Signature: _____ Title: _____

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

FSC License Subcode: _____

Date Removed from Group: _____ Reason: _____

Return this completed page via US Post: FSC CoC Administrator c/o, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, 402 West Washington Street Room W296, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
Or (preferred) scan and email completed page to: forestryinfo@dnr.IN.gov

Appendix B. Product Group Chart

Indiana Division of Forestry and Indiana State Forests				
Product Group Chart				
Applicable FSC Material Output Category	FSC Product Classification(see FSC-STD-40-004a V@-0 EN for product sub-codes	Species	Material Input Category	Control System
<input type="checkbox"/> FSC 100% <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Mix Credit <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Mix XX% <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Recycled Credit <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Recycled xx% <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Controlled Wood <input type="checkbox"/> FSC Recycled	W1 Rough wood	See species list below.	<input type="checkbox"/> FSC 100%	Transfer Credit Percent
	W3 Wood in chips or particles		<input type="checkbox"/> FSC Mix Credit	
	W5 Solid wood (sawn, chipped, sliced, or peeled)		<input type="checkbox"/> FSC Mix XX%	
	W6 Products from planing mill		<input type="checkbox"/> FSC Recycled Credit	
	W7 Veneer		<input type="checkbox"/> FSC Recycled xx%	
	W8 Wood panels		<input type="checkbox"/> FSC Controlled Wood	
	W9 Engineered wood products			
	W11 Wood for construction			
	W12 Indoor furniture			

Product groups included in the same credit system must share similar input and output characteristics, in terms of quality and conversion factor, as defined in FSC-STD-40-004 Clause 2.1.3 and “Terms and Definitions”. The term “quality” represents characteristics such as species, composition/specifications, or value of the materials. Products that contain inputs of different quality (e.g., sawn wood and fiber board) and/or with different conversion factors (e.g., solid wood and sandwich door) cannot be combined in the same product group. Credits from materials of a certain quality cannot be transferred to materials of different quality (e.g., credits from chip board material transferred to veneer). Thus, the credit system is not applicable for the production of products composed of materials of different “qualities”, unless the organization establishes separate credit accounts for each input material.

Species List

Common Name	Scientific Name
European Maple	<i>Acer camestrum</i>
English Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Red Maple	<i>Acer rubrum</i>
Silver Maple	<i>Acer saccharinum</i>
Sugar Maple	<i>Acer saccharum</i>
Alder	<i>Alnus rubra</i>
Anigre	<i>Aningeria</i> ssp
Okume	<i>Aucoumea klaineana</i>
White Birch	<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>
Pignut Hickory	<i>Carya glabra</i>
Pecan	<i>Carya illinoensis</i>
Shellbark Hickory	<i>Carya laciniosa</i>
Shagbark Hickory	<i>Carya ovata</i>
Catalpa	<i>Catalpa speciosa</i>
Hackberry	<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>
Macassar Ebony	<i>Diospyros celebica</i>
Tiama	<i>Entandrophragma angolense</i>
Sapeli	<i>Entandrophragma cylindricum</i>
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus amygdalina</i>
Eucalyptus	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>
Red Grandis	<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>
Lyptus	<i>Eucalyptus urophylla</i>
American Beech	<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>
White Ash	<i>Fraxinus americana</i>
European Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Black Ash	<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>
Green Ash	<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>
Jatoba	<i>Hymenaea courbaril</i>
Black Walnut	<i>Juglans nigra</i>
Eastern Red Cedar	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>
Mahogany – African	<i>Khaya ivorensis</i>
Mahogany, African	<i>Khaya senegalensis</i>
European Larch	<i>Larix decidua</i>
Sweetgum	<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>
Tulip Poplar	<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i>
Rosewood, Santos	<i>Machaerium sclerokylon</i>
Zebrawood	<i>Microberlinia brazzavillensis</i>
Wenge	<i>Millettia laurentii</i>
Blackgum	<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>
Bamboo	<i>Phyllostachys pubescens</i>
Norway Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i>

Shortleaf Pine	<i>Pinus echinata</i>
Red Pine	<i>Pinus resinosa</i>
Pine	<i>Pinus strobus</i>
Scotch Pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Loblolly pine	<i>Pinus taeda</i>
Virginia Pine	<i>Pinus virginiana</i>
American Sycamore	<i>Platanus occidentalis</i>
Balsam poplar (recon veneer)	<i>Populus balsamifera</i>
Large-toothed Aspen	<i>Populus grandidentata</i>
Quaking aspen	<i>Populus tremuloides</i>
Black Cherry	<i>Prunus serotina</i>
Douglas Fir	<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>
White Oak	<i>Quercus alba</i>
Scarlet Oak	<i>Quercus coccinea</i>
Northern Pin Oak	<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>
Southern Red Oak	<i>Quercus falcata</i>
Shingle Oak	<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>
Overcup Oak	<i>Quercus lyrata</i>
Bur Oak	<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>
Swamp Chestnut	<i>Quercus michauxii</i>
Chinkapin Oak	<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>
Cherrybark Oak	<i>Quercus pagoda</i>
Pin Oak	<i>Quercus palustris</i>
English Oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>
Chestnut Oak	<i>Quercus prinus</i>
Oak, European	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Northern Red Oak	<i>Quercus rubra</i>
Shumard Oak	<i>Quercus shumardii</i>
Post Oak	<i>Quercus stellata</i>
Black Oak	<i>Quercus velutina</i>
Black Locust	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>
Sassafras	<i>Sassafras albidum</i>
Mahogany, Honduras	<i>Swietenia macrophylla</i>
Cypress	<i>Taxodium distichum</i>
Teak	<i>Tectona grandis</i>
Western Red Cedar	<i>Thuja plicata</i>
Makore	<i>Tieghemella heckelii</i>
Basswood	<i>Tilia americana</i>
Obeche (recon veneer)	<i>Triplochiton scleroxylon</i>
Hemlock	<i>Tsuga heterophylla</i>
American Elm	<i>Ulmus americana</i>
Slippery Elm	<i>Ulmus rubra</i>

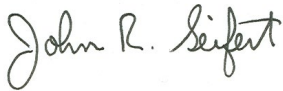
Appendix C. Policy for Sourcing Wood, Wood Fiber and Pulp for All Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certified Products

It is the policy of the Indiana Division of Forestry and all members of the FSC Group Chain-of-Custody Certificate to avoid using wood from forest areas where traditional or civil rights are violated; forest areas where high conservation values are threatened by management activities; wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted; wood that has been harvested illegally or wood harvested from areas which have been converted from natural forest to plantations or non-forest uses. The Indiana Division of Forestry has appointed a Forest Products Specialist as the contact person responsible for implementing this policy.

If it is demonstrated that any member of the Indiana Division of Forestry Group Chain-of-Custody Certificate is using wood from such sources in its FSC certified products, we will promptly take appropriate actions, including stopping purchases from such sources.

The Indiana Division of Forestry and all group members are committed to making best efforts to identify the sources of wood used for products labeled according to the FSC rules, and to establish the origin of materials used in the products affected with sufficient geographical resolution to ensure compliance with the policy. If it proves impossible to identify the origin of some of these raw materials, we are committed to replacing them with materials that can be sourced with confidence. Our sourcing policy requires us to verify and monitor our sources, the proportions of raw materials that have not yet been verified, and the steps being taken to replace materials of unknown origin.

Adopted August 18, 2010

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Seifert".

John R. Seifert
Director and State Forester, Indiana Division of Forestry

Appendix D. Risk Assessment.

Date of Risk Assessment: 09/17/2009 (reviewed 4/10/2012, reviewed/updated 1/21/22, 7/21/22, 8/16/22, 8/7/25)

Date

Approved: 1/8/2019

Country and District of Origin: USA – All States and Counties as described in this District of Origin. States included in this District of Origin include: **Illinois** (except Alexander County and Pulaski County), **Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri** (except Cape Girardeau County, Scott County, and Mississippi County), **New York, Pennsylvania** (all counties except: Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Fayette, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Schuylkill, Snyder, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Union, Venango, Washington, Wayne, and Westmoreland) **Wisconsin, All Kentucky counties are included in this District of Origin except:** Ballard, Bath, Bell, Boyd, Breathitt, Carlisle, Carter, Clay, Clinton, Cumberland, Elliott, Estill, Fleming, Floyd, Fulton, Greenup, Harlan, Johnson, Knott, Knox, Laurel, Lawrence, Lee, Leslie, Letcher, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, McCreary, Menifee, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Owsley, Perry, Pike, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Rowan, Wayne, Whitley, and Wolfe. **Tennessee counties included in this District of Origin include:** Benton, Carroll, Cheatham, Chester, Crockett, Davidson, Decatur, Dickson, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hamblen, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Hickman, Humphreys, Houston, Lawrence, Lewis, Madison, McNary, Montgomery, Perry, Robertson, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Unicoi, White, White, Williamson and Wilson **All Ohio counties are included in this District of Origin except:** Athens, Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Hocking, Jefferson, Lawrence, Monroe, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Perry, Pike, Scioto, Tuscarawas, Vinton, and Washington.

According to the applicable FSC risk assessment (FSC-US NRA, V1-0) the above District of Origin purchase area contains no specified risks.

Certificate Holder	Indiana Division of Forestry	Certification Body	Scientific Certification Systems
FSC CW Certificate Code	SCS-CW-002041	Date of CB Approval	January 8, 2019
Date of Risk Assessment	09/17/2009		
Certificate Holder Address	Indiana Division of Forestry 402 W. Washington, Room W-296 Indianapolis, IN 46204	Title	FSC Controlled Wood Assessment Summary for Indiana Division of Forestry

<p>1. Illegally Harvested Wood</p> <p>The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to illegal harvesting when <u>all</u> of the following indicators related to forest governance are present:</p>	<p>Findings and Resources</p>	<p>Resulting Level of Risk</p>
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<p>1.1 Evidence of enforcement of logging related laws in the district.</p>	<p>1. American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) Legality Study: (An Assessment of Risk: Legality & Sustainability of US Hardwood Exports). The AHEC recently commissioned an assessment of illegal logging in the hardwood producing areas of United States. The study area includes all states east of and adjacent to the Mississippi River. This report reports that the study area is determined to be LOW RISK for illegally harvested wood. The report is available from AHEC. http://www.ahec.org/publications/AHEC%20publications/AHEC_RISK_ASSESSMENT.pdf</p> <p>There have been international assessments of illegal logging from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Seneca Creek Associates, and Wood Resources International. These organizations have identified the areas where they have evidence of systematic illegal logging. These areas do not include the U.S. or Canada. In addition, the U.S. and Canada score high in measures of good governance such as offered by Transparency International and the World Bank. See the World Bank's website for good governance data compiled by the World bank and or Transparency International indices.</p> <p>It is arguable that illegal logging is a problem in the United States; however, when compared to the global situation, relatively, illegal logging in this country is of such small magnitude or frequency that it cannot be considered to be systematic in any areas of the U.S. In addition, any illegal logging that does occur is often prosecuted or the rightful owner has means to remedy the situation.</p> <p>2. www.illegal-logging.org provides no evidence of anything affecting the Eastern USA sourcing area.</p> <p>3. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-timber-harvest.pdf on the Indiana Division of Forestry website summarizes legally harvested timber within the state of Indiana and reports that a negligible amount (0.04%) was illegally acquired during the previous 5-year period; the document further describes the state laws that apply. All other states within the region have laws affecting illegal harvest of timber with low rates of illegal acquisition.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk</p>
<p>1.2 There is evidence in the district demonstrating the legality of harvests and wood purchases that includes robust and effective systems for granting licenses and harvest permits.</p>	<p>The Lacey Act (originally enacted in 1900) recently amended May 22, 2008, with the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. This amendment expanded its protection to a broader range of plants and plant products including logging. The Lacey Act makes it unlawful to import, export, transport, sell, receive, acquire, or purchase in interstate or foreign commerce any plant in violation of the laws of the United States, a state, a Native American tribe, or any foreign law that protects plants. The Lacey Act prohibits all trade in plant and plant products (e.g., furniture, paper, or lumber) that are illegally sourced from any U.S. state or any foreign country, requires importers to declare the country of origin of harvest and species name of all plants contained in their products, and establishes penalties for violation of the Act.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk</p>

1.3 There is little or no evidence or reporting of illegal harvesting in the district of origin.	1. www.panda.org reports no instances of illegal logging within the USA. 2. www.eldis.org provides no evidence of illegal harvesting within the USA. 3. Most states have laws related to illegal harvesting and penalties. For example, Indiana (http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-timber-harvest.pdf) reports that only 0.04% of timber within the state was illegally acquired, a majority of which are accidental problems that are settled between parties.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
1.4 There is a low perception of corruption related to the granting or issuing of harvesting permits and other areas of law enforcement related to harvesting and wood trade.	AHEC Legality Study concluded that that wood procured in this area can be considered Low Risk to threat to legality, based on the determination that there is no reported systematic illegal logging reported in this area and regulatory processes have been found to be highly effective.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
2. Wood harvested in violation of traditional or civil rights The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to the violation of traditional, civil and collective rights when <u>all</u> the following indicators are present:	Findings and Resources	Risk Level
2.1 There is no UN Security Council ban on timber exports from the country concerned.	1. http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/unsc_resolutions07.htm address numerous countries around the world with no relevance to this area. 2. The AHEC Legality Study reports no bans on timber exports from this area. 3. http://www.globalwitness.org/ reports no issue relative to this area	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
2.2 The country or district is not designated a source of conflict timber (E.g., USAID Type 1 conflict timber).	1. USAID Type 1 relates to conflict timber in Asia and Africa and does not apply to this area. 2. The entire USA does not comply as a designated source of conflict timber.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
2.3 There is no evidence of child labor or violation of ILO Fundamental Principles and	The USA has comprehensive laws prohibiting the use of child labor or violation of worker rights.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk

Rights at work taking place in forest areas in the district concerned.		
2.4 There are recognized and equitable processes in place to resolve conflicts of substantial magnitude pertaining to traditional rights including use rights, cultural interests or traditional cultural identity in the district concerned.	1. www.fscus.org confirms that the USA has federal and state laws that preclude such violations and there are recognized and effective practices in place to resolve conflicts over traditional and cultural use rights. 2. The AHEC legality study concludes that wood procured in this area can be considered Low Risk of violating traditional and civil rights. There are recognized and equitable processes in place to resolve conflicts of substantial magnitude.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
2.5 There is evidence of no violation of the ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples taking place in the forest areas in the district concerned.	www.fscus.org – ILO Fundamental Principles and rights at work are generally respected in the USA.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
3. Wood harvested from forest in which high conservation values are threatened by management activities The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to threat to high conservation values if: a) indicator 3.1 is met; <u>or</u> b) indicator 3.2 eliminates (or greatly mitigates) the threat posed to the district of	Findings and Resources	Risk Level

origin by non-compliance with 3.1.		
3.1 Forest management activities in the relevant level (eco-region, sub-eco-region, local) do not threaten ecoregionally significant high conservation values. OR	1. AHEC legality Study. A strong system of forest protection is in place across the entire USA.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
3.2 A strong system of protection (effective protected areas and legislation) is in place that ensures survival of the HCVs in the ecoregion.	<p>1. http://www.worldwildlife.org/science/ecoregions/WWFBinaryitem4810.pdf identifies two forested eco-regions within this area that are listed as vulnerable or critical or endangered. The Appalachian Mixed Mesophytic is listed as vulnerable; the Southeastern Coniferous and Broadleaf Forest is listed as Critical or Endangered. All states within these two eco-regions have extensive programs to identify and protect biodiversity hotspots or nature preserves to assure continued survival; an extensive system of national forests and wildlife preserves protects thousands of acres; NGOs such as The Nature Conservancy have additional systems of Nature Preserves. With the level of detection and preservation within this area, there is little risk to high conservation values.</p> <p>2. The Nature Serve network includes member programs operating in all 50 U. S. states as well as Canada and many other countries around the world. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources, as an example, has an active nature preserves program (http://www.in.gov/dnr/naturepreserve/). The Division of Nature Preserves locates and manages nature preserves to protect areas of high conservation value, and actively searches for the state's most significant natural areas through an intensive statewide inventory as part of a worldwide system of natural heritage programs.</p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
4. Wood harvested from areas being converted from forests and other wooded ecosystems to plantations or non-forest uses The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to conversion of forest to plantations or non-	Findings and Resources	Risk Level

<p>forest uses when the following indicator is present:</p> <p>[Note: the change from plantations to other land uses is not considered as conversion].</p>		
<p>4.1 There is no net loss AND no significant rate of loss (> 0.5% per year) of natural forests and other naturally wooded ecosystems such as savannahs taking place in the eco-region in question.</p>	<p>1. US Forest Service Forest Inventory and Analysis data are available for each state within this area. The growth of forests generally exceeds removals. The total acreage of forest land in most state is generally stable. According to the US Forest Service document http://www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_nc241.pdf, only 10 of the 31 states in this area had declining forest acreages during the 15-year period from 1987 to 2002. Annual rates of decline in those states ranged from 0.27% in New Hampshire to 0.01 percent in Maine. Forest acres increased in the remaining 21 states at an annual rate of 0.01 percent to a high of 1.83 percent in Iowa. Overall, in this 31-state area, acres of forest increased from 348,860,000 acres to 359,475,000 acres, an annual increase of 0.20.</p> <p>A more recent document, Forest Resources of the United States, 2007, available at http://fia.fs.fed.us/program-features/rpa/, reports similar information. This document compares state by state forest acreages between 2007 and 1997. This summary reinforces the concept that forest acreage in the 31-state area is increasing, from 358,407,000 acres in 1997 to 361,746,000 acres in 2007, an increase of 3,339,000 acres or 0.93% (annual increase of 0.09%). However, this 10-year period indicates that 14 of the 31 states are declining in forest acreage, while 17 are increasing. Alarming, according to this report, three states exceed the 0.5% annual deforestation rate (Maryland at -0.51%, Kentucky at -0.58%, and Rhode Island at -1.38%), indicating that a more detailed evaluation of the deforestation data in these three states was warranted.</p> <p>The data in the above-mentioned Forest Resources of the United States, 2007, was based on Forest Inventory and Analysis Information from the various states. The inventory schedule varies from state to state, so the reported information does not always apply directly to the 10-year period. To determine current deforestation rates in these three states, we consulted the USFS FIA online database query tool, EVALIDator Version 4.0, on September 17, 2009. Detailed information from the three questionable states is as follows:</p> <p>Maryland: A complete report of Maryland resources is dated 1999, with annual surveys completed in 2004-2006. The most accurate comparison is between the 1999 survey and the three-year summary of 2004-2006, for a 7-year comparison. The forest acreage in Maryland</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk</p>

	<p>decreased from 2,564,730 acres in 1999 to 2,437,799 in 2006 for a total decline of 126,931 acres during the 7-year period. This represents an annual decline of 0.72%. The Table also reports that the sampling error is 2.21 percent from the 1999 survey and 3.3% for the 2004-2006 survey. Applying these errors to the data, the actual change is likely within the range of 10,197-acre increase to a 264,059-acre decrease. On a positive note, for Maryland's forest resources, the state recently passed (May 7, 2009) the "<i>Sustainable Forest Act of 2009</i>" and the complementary "<i>No Net Loss of Forest Act</i>" to protect existing forests and encourage the planting of more trees to replace forests that have been cleared for development. These two bills are intended to protect the states forested area in perpetuity, so the sustainability of Maryland's forests is established in state law. Also noteworthy, Maryland is a small state, accounting for only 0.71% of the forest acreage within the 31-state area, so the contribution of Maryland timber to the Indiana forest products industries is negligible.</p> <p>Kentucky: Complete inventories of Kentucky resources were completed in 1988 and a 5-year report covering the years 2000-2004. Since then, annual reports have been completed for 2005 and 2006. Two ways to compare the current change in acreage is to compare the 2006 one-year estimate with the 2000-2004 5-year estimate. This comparison indicates an increase of 119,347 acres from 2004 to 2006, an annual increase of 0.50%. Comparing the 1988 acreage to the one-year 2006 acreage indicates an annual rate of decline of 0.24%. Furthermore, comparing the 1988 survey with the 2004 survey numbers (the two surveys with the best estimate or lowest sampling errors) the annual rate of decline is 0.34%. In conclusion, the change in forest acres in the state of Kentucky is in the range of -0.34% annually to +0.50%, none at the 0.50% deforestation rate.</p> <p>Rhode Island: A complete inventory of Rhode Island Forest resources was completed in 1985 and 1998, with a 4-year summary of the years 2003-2006 being the most recent information available. A comparison of the 1998 survey with the 2003-2006 survey indicates a reduction in forest acreage from 393,250 acres to 364,644 acres, a reduction of 28,606 acres or an annual rate of 0.94%. Reported sampling errors for these two inventories are 5.47% and 4.46% respectively. Also noteworthy, Rhode Island Forest acres account for only 0.10% of the forest acreage in the 31-state area, so the contribution of Rhode Island timber to the forest industry in Indiana is negligible.</p> <p>Because the purchase area is experiencing an increase in forest acreage, and the only two states individually experiencing a decline greater than 0.5% annually contribute a combined 0.81% of forest acreage in the region, the area is at low risk of deforestation.</p>	
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5. Wood from forests in which genetically modified trees are planted 5. The district of origin may be considered low risk in relation to wood from genetically modified trees when <u>one</u> of the following indicators is complied with:	Findings and Resources	Risk Level
a) There is no commercial use of genetically modified trees of the species concerned taking place in the country or district concerned. OR	http://www.fscus.org/images/documents/controlled_wood/5_07/US%20CW%20Guidance%20-%20v3.2.doc states that currently the only possible source of genetically modified wood is from China plantations of one species, Lombardy poplar (<i>Populus nigra</i>). No other species is available as GMO; the use of Lombardy poplar in general and specifically from China is extremely low to non-existent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
b) Licenses are required for commercial use of genetically modified trees and there are no licenses for commercial use. OR	AHEC Legality Study – At this time all wood sourced in the US can be considered to not contain wood from GMO trees.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk
c) It is forbidden to use genetically modified trees commercially in the country concerned.	NA	<input type="checkbox"/> Low Risk <input type="checkbox"/> Unspecified Risk

Appendix E. Complaints Mechanism

Complaints supported by evidence related to supplies of controlled wood will be assessed by the Property Program Specialist within 2 weeks of receipt. In the event that evidence is considered relevant, a field verification will be conducted within 2 months of receipt of the complaint. Field verifications will be conducted by personnel with sufficient expertise and knowledge to be able to conduct the verification in accordance with the standard (Annex 3 of FSC-STD-40-005 V3-1).

If the field verification concludes that the wood does not meet the requirements of FSC Controlled Wood standard Annex 3, or if the field verification is not conducted within 2 months of receipt of the complaint, then the supply will be excluded from our FSC Product Groups and no claims about this material will be made until the supply has been proven to comply with the FSC Controlled Wood requirements. Furthermore, the Division of Forestry will notify the United States FSC National Initiative and SCS of the results of the verification within 2 weeks.

Records of all complaints received, and actions taken will be kept for a minimum of 5 years and made available to SCS upon request.

In addition to and in support of the above, the below items are also a part of the Complaints Mechanism:

- a) Acknowledging receipt of complaints;
- b) Informing stakeholders of the complaint procedure, and providing an initial response to complainants within a time period of two (2) weeks;
- c) Forwarding complaints related to risk designations in the relevant FSC risk assessment to the responsible body (for an NRA: as indicated in the NRA; for a CNRA: FSC);
- d) Conducting a preliminary assessment to determine whether evidence provided in a complaint is or is not substantial, by assessing the evidence provided against the risk of using material from unacceptable sources;
- e) Dialogue with complainants that aims to solve complaints assessed as substantial before further actions are taken;
- f) Forwarding substantial complaints to the certification body and relevant FSC National Office for the supply area within two (2) weeks of receipt of the complaint. Information on the steps to be taken by the organization in order to resolve the complaint, as well as how a precautionary approach will be used, shall be included with the complaint;
- g) Employing a precautionary approach toward the continued sourcing of the relevant material while a complaint is pending;
- h) Implementing a process (e.g., field verification and/or desk verification) to verify a complaint assessed as substantial by the organization, within two (2) months of its receipt;
- i) Determining the corrective action to be taken by suppliers and the means to enforce its implementation by a supplier if a complaint has been assessed and

verified as substantial. If a corrective action cannot be determined and/or enforced, the relevant material and/or suppliers shall be excluded by the organization;

- j) Verifying whether corrective action has been taken by suppliers and whether it is effective;
- k) Excluding the relevant material and suppliers from the organization's supply chain if no corrective action is taken;
- l) Informing the complainant, the certification body, and the relevant FSC National Office of the results of the complaint and any actions taken towards its resolution, and for maintaining copies of relevant correspondence; and
- m) Recording and filing all complaints received and actions taken.

Anyone may submit complaints along with evidence to:

FSC CoC Administrator c/o
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
402 West Washington Street Room W296
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2739
317-232-4105
Email: forestryinfo@dnr.IN.gov

Appendix F. Policy to encompass the FSC Core Labour Requirements

Group members will conform to Section 7 FSC Core Labour Requirements identified in FSC-STD-40-004 V3-1 and adopt the group policy statement below.

Group members do not use or tolerate child labor or forced or compulsory labor. Group members respect and comply with State and US Laws concerning discrimination in employment and occupation, freedom of association and rights to collective bargaining.