

Illegal Logging

The International Wood Products Association (IWPA) and its members support the development and implementation of responsible and constructive logging laws and forest management regulations in all timber-producing regions. IWPA promotes compliance, by all parties, with national, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to logging and forest management. IWPA members condemn the violation of such laws and commit to purchase products only from suppliers and/or individuals who are in support of this policy.

IWPA believes forest law enforcement is a sovereign right and responsibility of governments through laws, regulations, enforcement and sanctions. We define illegal logging to be any activity in contravention to the laws or regulations of the timber-producing country. We condemn illegal logging.

IWPA members commit to comply with the applicable legal requirements under the national laws of timber-producing countries in which members and suppliers are conducting business. IWPA strongly supports the efforts of timber-producing countries to enforce their forestry laws and regulations.

In timber-producing countries where such laws are not in place, we support the establishment of laws and regulations that protect the revenues and other benefits derived from a legal and sustainable trade in forest products.

IWPA members pledge to conduct trade in wood products in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, not only of the timber-producing countries but also those of the countries of destination. In addition, all shipments of wood products will be accompanied by the requisite documentation issued by the proper government authorities.

Legitimate commercial logging and wood production are essential for the economic and social well-being of timber-producing countries. The international forest products industry provides employment and funds health care, education and conservation efforts. Legal and sustainable trade in forest products is in the best interests of the local communities dependent on forestry, the industry and the environment.

