

**European Union Regulation Continues to Threaten Trade with
U.S. Forest Products Industry**

New guidance documents do not relieve onerous regulatory burdens

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On behalf of the forestry and forest products sector in the United States, the undersigned organizations issue the following statement in response to the European Union Commission’s newly released guidance on implementation of the European Union Deforestation-free Regulation (EUDR):

“While the stated intent of the updates was to streamline and lessen administrative costs of EUDR reporting requirements, significant concerns remain within the U.S. forest products value chain. The EU Commission’s latest guidance documents neither address severe EUDR compliance challenges that continue to threaten U.S. forest products exports, nor provide any legal compliance certainty. In addition, the Commission’s latest updates appear to disproportionately benefit EU supply chains, further widening the gap in EUDR obligations between EU-based operators and traders compared to EU importers.”

“The regulation’s requirements remain overly prescriptive and fail to acknowledge that the U.S. forest products industry supply chain does not contribute to global deforestation. Until unnecessary obligations of the regulation- particularly geolocation and traceability for low-risk supply chains- are modified or eliminated to be more proportionate to the negligible deforestation risk in the U.S., millions of private landowners, U.S. manufacturing jobs and critical exports to the EU remain in jeopardy.”

American Forest & Paper Association

American Forest Foundation

American Hardwood Export Council

American Wood Council

Forest Landowners Association

Forest Resources Association

Hardwood Federation

National Alliance of Forest Owners

U.S. Industrial Pellet Association

