

# Protecting Endangered Forests and Maintaining Forest Diversity



Georgia-Pacific relies on wood and wood fiber to make the paper and building products people want and need. We are committed to helping maintain healthy forests now and into the future and using resources more efficiently. We follow and promote good, science-based forest protection and enhancement activities. We strive to provide our customers with products they value while addressing their environmental concerns.

## ENDANGERED FORESTS AND SPECIAL AREAS:

There are some lands that should be protected because of their unique or rare qualities. At GP, we are actively mapping endangered forests and special areas within our key wood fiber supply regions. Once mapped, GP won't buy wood fiber from these areas except in unique situations when active forest management is needed to improve habitat for endangered, rare and/or vulnerable species.

GP is the first forest products company to use a broad-scale analysis to identify and map endangered forests and special areas in the United States.

## Science-based Approach

- We worked with environmental organizations, including Dogwood Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council and Rainforest Action Network, to understand the values they believe are important in identifying endangered forests and special areas
- We contracted with an expert in ecology and geographic information system mapping to develop a scientific methodology that considers the values associated with endangered forests and special areas

## Progress to Date

- Completed mapping more than 6 million acres of endangered forests and special areas in more than a dozen Southern states
- Implementing procedures internally and externally, including meeting with more than 600 wood fiber suppliers in the Southeast about our expectations
- Continuing to map endangered forests and special areas in the Pacific Northwest and the Allegheny Region



## MAINTAINING FOREST DIVERSITY:

The fiber from natural hardwood forests is an important component of many of the paper and tissue products GP makes. GP wants to help maintain forest diversity by supporting the growth and maintenance of natural hardwood forests in areas where they are best suited. To address concerns about the outlook for these forests, which can be vulnerable to conversion to pine forests, and help ensure we have an adequate supply of fiber to meet our current and future needs, GP is mapping natural hardwood forests in our key wood fiber supply regions. If any of these areas are converted to pine plantations after 2008, we won't buy that pine fiber.

## Current Activities

- Used US Geological Survey data, satellite imagery and GP's own local knowledge to identify more than 26 million acres of lowland natural hardwood areas in more than a dozen states
- Millions more acres of upland hardwoods will be added to the program in the near future