

Masconomo Forestry brings FSC certification to privately owned Minnesota forests

CASE STUDY: CERTIFICATION IN MINNESOTA

Masconomo Forestry was the first private forest management company to receive FSC certification in Minnesota. Masconomo Forestry, a consulting company based in Crosby, MN, first obtained forest management certification for 22 Central Minnesota properties in 1999. The consulting group is owned and led by Peter Bundy, a certified forester with a Masters Degree in Natural Resources and extensive experience in forest management.

Masconomo Forestry's FSC certificate now includes nearly 4,500 acres of certified forest under management with an average property size of about 110 acres. Non-industrial private forestland owners (NPIF) own twenty of the properties enrolled in the certificate.

The certificate also includes the forestlands of the Audubon Center of the Northwoods located near Sandstone, Minnesota and St. John's Abbey and University.



Well-managed forests can offer year-round recreational opportunities.

Masconomo Forestry requires landowners who wish to join the group certificate to undergo a one-year probationary candidacy in order to determine whether the landowner's forest management goals are compatible with FSC standards and expectations. Prior to enrolling in the group, all

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members sign an agreement that outlines their responsibilities.

The main objectives of Masconomo Forestry's forest management are forest restoration, income from timber production and supporting recreation and wildlife within the forests. The primary forest types within the certified lands include aspen, basswood, bur oak, eastern white pine, northern red oak, red pine, sugar maple, tamarack and white birch. The harvested wood typically produces boltwood, pulpwood, firewood and saw logs.

The international Forest Stewardship Council has accredited SmartWood, a program of the Rainforest Alliance, to conduct independent audits, provide certification and promote certified products. SmartWood deploys independent auditors to

verify whether applicants comply with the principles, criteria and regional standards of the FSC. The properties represented by the Masconomo certificate are certified under the Lake States-Central Hardwoods regional standards.

Masconomo Forestry's certified group is growing. The growing membership shows a commitment to sustainable forest management and an opportunity for Central Minnesota's landowners to be increasingly competitive in the world timber market.

For more information about Masconomo Forestry, please contact:

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