

BESTSELLER'S FOREST PROTECTION POLICY

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Conservation of Ancient and Endangered Forests and Ecosystems

BESTSELLER will support approaches and systems to build a future that does not use ancient and endangered forestsⁱ in the packaging, paper or in man-made cellulosic fabrics, including rayon, viscose, lyocell, modal and other trademarked brands. We will influence these supply chains in order to protect the world's remaining ancient and endangered forests and endangered speciesⁱⁱ habitat.

To do this, we will:

1. Work with Canopy and our suppliers to support collaborative and visionary solutions that protect remaining ancient and endangered forests in the Coastal Temperate Rainforests on Vancouver Islandⁱⁱⁱ and the Great Bear Rainforest^{iv}, Canada's Boreal Forests^v, and Indonesia's Rainforests.^{vi}
2. Assess our existing use of man-made cellulose, packaging and paper and eliminate sourcing from endangered species habitat and ancient and endangered forests such as the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests; tropical forests and peatlands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa by 2022 for man-made cellulose and for paper and packaging.
3. Work to eliminate sourcing from: companies that are logging forests illegally^{vii}; tree plantations^{viii} established after 1994 through the conversion or simplification of natural forests; or areas being logged in contravention of First Nations/tribal/indigenous peoples' and community rights or from other controversial suppliers.
4. Should we find that any of our products sourced from ancient and endangered forests, endangered species habitat or illegal logging, we will engage our suppliers to change practices and/or re-evaluate our relationship with them.

Design and Prioritization of Reduction and Reuse

The reduction and reuse of paper and packaging is of paramount priority for the protection of the world's limited forest resources.

Over the next year, BESTSELLER will prioritise the development of a reduction and reuse strategy with targets and timelines. Over the next 3 years BESTSELLER will work towards:

- Maximizing the use of recycled paper and cardboard
- Designing and implementing e-commerce, shipping, display and wrapping systems that minimise the use of paper
- Utilising re-useable packaging systems for intra business applications
- Increasing the use of digital communication, marketing and accounting systems
- Adopting best practices including researching and applying emerging and circular

economy innovations.

Shift to More Environmentally and Socially Beneficial Fabrics

Innovation in textiles is important for BESTSELLER to be able to respond quickly to market changes and consumer preferences, as well as a matter of responsibility and reducing our environmental impact. Through Invest FWD and our involvement in Fashion for Good, we will explore closed-loop solutions for viscose fibre production with the aim to help bring them to scale.

In 2020, BESTSELLER will put in place a preference for purchasing man-made cellulosics products, that include a minimum of 50% of these innovative fibre sources with the aim to reduce the use of virgin wood pulp in BESTESLLER products. BESTSELLER will by 2025 develop procurement target for these closed-loop solutions based on viscose fibre producer innovation.

Improve Environmental Quality of Packaging and Paper

BESTSELLER will collaborate with [Canopy](#), innovative companies and suppliers to encourage the development of next generation solutions and packaging and paper^{ix} that reduce environmental and social impacts, with a focus on agricultural fibres (particularly residues)¹⁰ and recycled content. We will use Canopy's [Ecopaper database](#) and [The Paper Steps](#) as a guide for paper and packaging sourcing.

To help reduce the footprint of the paper and packaging we use^x, BESTSELLER will:

- Do an annual review of all of our paper and packaging use in order to identify areas where we can increase paper use efficiencies, reduce paper and packaging basis weights, and save money and resources.
- BESTSELLER will adopt a preference for paper/packaging with high-recycled content, specifically post-consumer waste content, with the goal of reaching an overall recycled fiber content in our papers and packaging of at least 50% average by the end of 2022;
- Encourage our suppliers to continuously improve and expand the availability of recycled content in papers/packaging;
- Source packaging and paper from alternative fibres such as wheat straw or other agricultural residues, when possible;
- Support research and development of commercial scale production of pulp, paper and packaging from alternative fibre sources such as wheat straw, and other alternative fibres including participation in trials as appropriate.

Forest Certification

When virgin fibre is required, BESTSELLER will work towards sourcing 100% of our paper, packaging and man-made cellulosic fibres responsibly in line with industry best practice, with a preference for Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification.

Recognising, Respecting and Upholding Human Rights and the Rights of Communities

BESTSELLER will request that our suppliers adhere to our Code of Conduct, Human Rights Policy and Child Labour Policy, including respecting the indigenous and rural communities and the rights of their territories, land, and resources, outlined in United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights^{xi}. To do so, we request that our suppliers acknowledge the right of Indigenous People and rural communities to give or withhold their Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) before new logging rights are allocat-

ed or plantations are developed. We request that our suppliers resolve complaints and conflicts, and remediate human rights violations through a transparent, accountable, and agreeable dispute resolution process.

Reduce Greenhouse Gas Footprint

BESTSELLER recognises the importance of the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to mitigating the global average Temperature to below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, further pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C. As part of our commitment to this, we will set science-based goals on greenhouse gas emissions by 2020; have our owned and operated buildings globally be powered by 100% renewable energy by 2021 and have the energy consumption in our owned and operated buildings globally reduced by 30%.

Safeguarding Water and Critical Systems

BESTSELLER recognises that ancient and endangered forests are vitally important systems for the protection and regulation of water from the local to global level. Large areas of contiguous forest act as a biotic pump helping to move moisture from coastal areas to the interior of continents. We give preference to those suppliers that use effective strategies to actively maintain and restore forest intactness to maintain forests' function of regulating the flow and purity of water at a micro and macro scale.

Support Best Processing Practices and Procurement

BESTSELLER will continue to embed sustainability in its supply chain by continuously exploring innovative solutions and more sustainable manufacturing processes in its product design and production.

We will give purchasing preference to paper and packaging that has been processed utilising technologies such as chlorine free bleaching^{xii}. We will switch to receipts for in-store use that are non-phenol and BPA/BPS free^{xiii} in recognition of the health benefits this will have for our employees and customers.

We will conduct research and strive to work with environmentally responsible companies that use printers that use fewer resources and are better for the environment.

Promote Industry Leadership

BESTSELLER looks to create a positive impact together with our suppliers, partners and customers. As implementation progresses, BESTSELLER will work with suppliers, non-governmental organisations, other stakeholders and brands that work with Canopy to support the protection of ancient and endangered forests and forward solutions to reduce the demands upon forests. We will also seek opportunities to educate and inform the public on these issues and solutions through our marketing and communications.

Dorte Rye Olsen, Sustainability Manager

BESTSELLER A/S

Brande, Denmark 12.03.2020

FOOTNOTES

ⁱ Ancient and endangered forests are defined as intact forest landscape mosaics, naturally rare forest types, forest types that have been made rare due to human activity, and/or other forests that are ecologically critical for the protection of biological diversity. Ecological components of endangered forests are: Intact forest landscapes; Remnant forests and restoration cores; Landscape connectivity; Rare forest types; Forests of high species richness; Forests containing high concentrations of rare and endangered species; Forests of high endemism; Core habitat for focal species; Forests exhibiting rare ecological and evolutionary phenomena. Key endangered forests globally are the Canadian and Russian Boreal Forests; Coastal Temperate Rainforests of British Columbia, Alaska and Chile; Tropical forests and peat lands of Indonesia, the Amazon and West Africa. For more information on the location and definitions of ancient and endangered forests, please go to: <https://canopyplanet.org/tools/forestmapper/>

ⁱⁱ A good source to identify endangered, threatened and imperiled species is NatureServe's Conservation Status rankings for imperiled species that are at high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines in populations, or other factors.

ⁱⁱⁱ Coastal temperate rainforests are rare and only ever covered 0.2% of the planet. On Vancouver Island only 10% of Vancouver Island's productive old growth rare coastal temperate rainforest remain. These stands of 1,000-year old trees continue to be harvested despite their immense value to local communities for tourism. Their accessibility and beauty is a remarkable global asset and Canopy is working to see these last stands protected.

^{iv} A legal conservation plan is now finalized for the Great Bear Rainforest. On February 1st, 2016 the Government of British Columbia, First Nations, environmental organizations and the forest industry announced an Ecosystem-based Management framework that sets 85% of this region off limits to logging and stringent logging rules in the other 15%. Provided these agreements are fully implemented – sourcing from this ancient and endangered forest region can be considered to be within sustainable levels. We encourage ongoing verification of this through renewal of Forest Stewardship Council certification.

^v Protection of Boreal Forests where the largest remaining tracts of forests are located worldwide is critical. Canada's Boreal Forest contain the largest source of unfrozen freshwater world-wide and are part of the world's largest terrestrial carbon sink – equivalent to 26 years worth of global fossil fuel use. Canopy is committed to working collaboratively on the establishment of new protected areas, the protection of endangered species and the implementation of sustainable harvesting in Canada's Boreal Forest.

^{vi} Indonesia experiences the second highest rate of deforestation among tropical countries, with the island of Sumatra standing out due to the intensive forest clearing that has resulted in the conversion of 70% of the island's forested area (FAO Forest Assessment 2010; Margono, B.A. et al. 2012).

^{vii} Legal forest management is management that complies with all applicable international, national, and local laws, including environmental, forestry, and civil rights laws and treaties.

^{viii} Plantations are areas planted predominately with non-native trees or other commercial plants. Forests comprised of native species can also be managed as plantations, including via single species plantings on sites that would normally support multiple species, exclusion of other species via herbicide applications, short logging rotations that preclude the development of forest composition and structure, and/or other practices.

^{ix} Environmentally friendly fibre sources include:

- Post-consumer recycled waste fibre
- Pre-consumer recycled fibre
- Agricultural residue defined above
- Fibre from FSC certified tenures (FSC 100%, no controlled wood from controlled wood tenures)

^x Paper Task Force Report and the Environmental Paper Network Paper Calculator. "The scientific basis for these conclusions is the analysis of the Paper Task Force, a three-year research project convened by Environmental Defense and involving Duke University, Johnson & Johnson, McDonald's, Prudential Insurance, and Time Inc. The Paper Task Force examined environmental impacts through the full lifecycle of paper, along with economic and functional issues across major paper grades. Its findings were extensively peer-reviewed by scientists, academics, environmental experts, and government and industry representatives."

^{xi} <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

^{xii} Unbleached, Process Chlorine Free (PCF) and Totally Chlorine Free (TCF) is preferred with ECF as a minimum.

^{xiii} <https://www.greenamerica.org/report-skip-the-slip>

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