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New Report Exposes Illegal Logging In Canada's Boreal Forests By Weyerhaeuser Operations Supplying Xerox

Saskatchewan residents and Weyerhaeuser loggers speak out in controversial new grassroots documentary.

Clear-cut case study provides government documents proving Weyerhaeuser violations.

Saskatchewan Environmental Society retains Sierra Legal Defence Fund to call on Minister of Justice Frank Quennell to investigate Weyerhaeuser.

Illegal Weyerhaeuser operations certified as "sustainable" by the Canadian Standards Association.

Saskatchewan, Canada – Investigations by local residents, Saskatchewan Environmental Society and Rainforest Action Network reveal that Weyerhaeuser (NYSE: WY, TSX: WYL) is illegally logging in Canada's Boreal forests to make plywood and copy paper for Xerox (NYSE: XRX) and other U.S. corporations.

Saskatchewan Environmental Society has retained Sierra Legal Defence Fund to appeal Weyerhaeuser's certification and call on Minister of Justice Frank Quennell to investigate "the long-standing, continuing and current legal non-compliance by Weyerhaeuser's Saskatchewan Forestlands operations." The Canadian conservation community is calling on Weyerhaeuser customers like Xerox to suspend purchases until the company attains Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification for all of its operations.

In "Saskatchewan: The Province of Weyerhaeuser," a case study released today, government documents confirm that Weyerhaeuser exceeded its legal summer logging allowance by 100 percent and 20-year road building allowance by 70 percent in less than five years. According to Saskatchewan law, Weyerhaeuser currently owes the province almost \$1.5 million in fines for these violations. In a grassroots documentary webcast on RAN.org, Saskatchewan residents and former Weyerhaeuser loggers testify to the company's disregard of community concerns and destruction of public forests. Despite known violations, Weyerhaeuser is currently certified as "sustainable" by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA).

The case study, grassroots video documentary and source documents (PDF) are available for viewing and download online at: <http://www.ran.org/weyerhaeuser/>

“The CSA framework contains no specific criteria and indicators,” said Allyson Brady of the Saskatchewan Environmental Society. “By allowing repeat offenders like Weyerhaeuser to write the rules, the CSA fails to guarantee even minimal forest protections. The FSC is the only certification system that is trusted by companies, consumers and communities.”

“Most people associate illegal logging with endangered forests in South America, Southeast Asia and Central Africa and are shocked to learn that it is going on in their own back yard right here in North America,” said Brant Olson, director of the Old Growth Campaign at Rainforest Action Network. “Unlike industry leaders Tembec and Domtar, Weyerhaeuser is a rogue corporation, consistently refusing to respond to constructive community engagement until they are caught red handed. From Haida Gwaii to Pemberton, Weyerhaeuser has proven that it takes the threat of a blockade to get their attention. Until Weyerhaeuser attains FSC certification and adopts a global policy to protect endangered forests and respect human rights, communities across Canada will continue to call on customers to cancel the contracts.”

Saskatchewan Environmental Society

The Saskatchewan Environmental Society is a non-profit, registered charity whose mandate is to help build a sustainable society by promoting healthy ecosystems, healthy livelihoods and healthy human communities. For more information, please visit EnvironmentalSociety.ca.

Rainforest Action Network

Rainforest Action Network campaigns for the forests, their inhabitants and the natural systems that sustain life by transforming the global marketplace through education, grassroots organizing and non-violent direct action. For more information, please visit RAN.org.

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