

Forest.Health Operating Principles

Forest.Health (F.H) will use technology in responsible and effective ways to protect and restore North America's forest health. F.H participants are committed to: (1) understanding and being responsive to the environmental and social implications of a technologies' use; (2) the highest possible conformance with existing regulation; (3) promoting core aspects of sustainable forestry; (4) communicating openly and transparently; and (5) identifying usable, real-world, science-based solutions. F.H participants will subscribe to the following principles:

Responsible Action. Understanding and consideration of the environmental and social implications of using advanced technologies.

- + Responsible action includes the expected benefits and risks from use – both environmental and social. Risks include not only reasonably anticipated negative impacts on the environment and society, but also the risk associated with inaction.

Regulatory Conformance. Technologies will be used in conformance with all relevant regulations.

- + Forest.Health participants will communicate both process and results in a fashion beneficial to the advancement of future regulatory understanding.

Sustainable Forestry. Ensure sustainability of activities throughout the forest value chain.

- + Considerations and requirements of relevant certification systems will be considered and weighed during the development of trees or products.

Open Communication. Transparency is a vital aspect of everything Forest.Haelth does.

- + Forest.Health participants will communicate openly with interested stakeholders. Active engagement of stakeholders to solicit meaningful input and to participate in the process of protecting or restoring forest health will be sought. Information will be developed and communicated that helps stakeholders and the general public better understand the key issues surrounding the use of advanced technologies to benefit forest health.

Results Driven. Science-based solutions that are highly functional and usable in real-world conditions will be sought.

- + Forest.Health research will use accepted scientific method, best available science, and the highest ethical standards. No technology will be elevated or discriminated against a priori. Results and analysis will be presented in such a way that they are transparent and replicable. Claims or conclusions will be supported by facts.