

FOREST INDUSTRIES PRACTICE



LAWYERS WHO KNOW FOREST INDUSTRIES

Anchored by deep roots in the Pacific Northwest, Stoel Rives has grown a broad forest industries practice. Some members of our Forest Industries Team have technical forestry degrees or have worked directly for forest industries companies. Others grew up in timber towns or currently own small tracts of timberland. All of us care about the industry and recognize its importance to our nation's economy and culture.

Alaska California Idaho Minnesota Oregon Utah Washington



FOREST INDUSTRIES



Stoel Rives, a full-service business law firm, is dedicated to maintaining and building on our extensive representation of forest industries. Since taking on our first forest products client in the 1890s, Stoel Rives has steadily built our practice in timber management and sales, natural resources, environmental matters, real estate, antitrust issues, marketing, taxation and litigation. Together with our clients, we have worked through many changes in the industry. Today we represent a broad array of the most successful forest industry operators, from large vertically integrated players to single-tract family owners, including publicly traded corporations and real estate investment trusts, institutional timber investors, timber investment management organizations (TIMOs), and large and small privately held companies. Our multifaceted understanding enables us to meet the special challenges facing forest industries.

ACQUISITION AND FINANCING OF TIMBERLAND AND MILLS

The changing timber economy has resulted in a growing market for transfer of timberland ownership nationally. Our attorneys regularly assist clients in acquiring, financing, exchanging and selling large and small tracts of timberland. Our breadth of timber-related experience allows us to add value by structuring these transactions to meet our clients' needs and identifying and resolving risks inherent in such deals.

Combined with our broad-based expertise in handling mergers and acquisitions for all industries, our forest industries knowledge allows us to efficiently and effectively represent clients in these transactions.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCE MATTERS

Forest industries represent a substantial part of Stoel Rives' environmental and natural resource practices. Our environmental attorneys assist clients with air quality and water quality permitting and compliance matters, working with paper mills, wood treaters, sawmills and other facilities to navigate complex environmental permitting processes. We also regularly advise forest industries clients on contaminated-land issues and habitat issues.

For over 20 years, we have defended clients in suits brought under federal environmental laws, such as the Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act, and have been involved in several precedent-setting cases of critical importance to forest industries. We also help clients develop and implement regulatory compliance strategies appropriate for this constantly changing legal landscape.

LITIGATION

The Forest Industries Team has a strong track record in industry-related litigation. Our attorneys have been involved in cases regarding responsibility for forest fire damage, antitrust claims arising out of bidding practices, environmental challenges to forest operations, claims against the government arising out of federal timber contracts and numerous claims between private parties involving breaches of contracts relating to forest operations.

CONTRACT AND LAND OWNERSHIP MATTERS

We frequently advise clients regarding the day-to-day aspects of owning and operating forestland, including:

- timber sale contracts;
- agreements relating to logging, sales of wood chips or sales of forest products;
- access and right-of-way agreements;
- log export restrictions;
- compliance with state forest practices statutes, rules and regulations;
- land use requirements and development of higher- and better-use lands; and
- product sales and marketing.

TAXATION AND INVESTMENT

We have significant experience with federal income tax issues arising out of timberland ownership and with legislation and judicial decisions involving state taxation of timber and timberland. We have represented both domestic and foreign investors in various timber-related transactions, including the purchase of timberland and mills. We are also well-versed in state and local tax matters that create important incentives and tax advantages—as well as tax traps—for timberland owners and forest products manufacturers.

TRADE ASSOCIATIONS

The forest industries sector has a long history of working cooperatively on industry issues through regional and national trade associations. Our attorneys are involved in these trade associations as members and active participants. Through these associations, we often provide services to the industry on a courtesy basis, in addition to serving as paid counsel on significant matters.

ENERGY

Energy is one of the greatest costs for forest products mills. Consequently, many of our clients have turned to cogeneration and other means of supplying some or all of their energy. Building on Stoel Rives' nationally-recognized energy practice, we assist forest industries clients in all aspects of energy projects, including energy facility permitting, environmental permitting, financing, fuel supply and electricity sale and purchase contracts, and tax structuring and incentives.






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For more information about our Forest Industries Practice please visit:

www.stoel.com/forestindustries



Stoel Rives LLP is a U.S. business law firm with nearly 400 lawyers. For more information about our legal services or about our offices in Alaska, California, Idaho, Minnesota, Oregon, Utah and Washington, please visit www.stoel.com or contact our Forest Industries Team lawyers at (800) 88-STOEL.