



GFTN-UK FOREST PRODUCT REPORTING SUMMARY FOR 2017 (Version 3)

The Canal and River Trust has been a participant in WWF's Global Forest & Trade Network (GFTN) in the UK since 2002.

All GFTN participants commit to progressively sourcing forest products from well-managed sources.

The Trust undertakes due diligence to assess and mitigate any risk of illegal and unwanted forest products entering into the UK market from our supply chain. We collect as much information on supply chain sources as possible, and systematically work to eliminate poor sources which may not positively benefit forests as a future resource for people and nature.

To highlight our progress towards meeting our commitments to source well-managed and recycled materials, we're publishing the status of our current supply chain for various categories of forest goods, as defined by the GFTN.

We hope the transparency of the UK GFTN members about their performance on forest sourcing will prompt others in the sector to follow suit. We also encourage all forest certification systems to continuously improve their performance in delivering responsible forest management.

At present, WWF and GFTN participants believe FSC represents the gold standard and a credible benchmark for other forest certification schemes to match. Our preference is to source increasingly from credibly-certified forests or verified recycled sources.

The European Timber Regulation aims to limit the trade in illegal timber. It provides a baseline of legality as a minimum for forest goods entering the European market and reaching consumers. GFTN participants want to make sure they're playing their part in reducing the UK footprint on global forest resources, by sourcing sustainably – going beyond a compliance-only approach.

Our forest products reported for the 2017 calendar year are as follows:

93.9% Credibly Certified (e.g. FSC purchased with Chain of Custody)

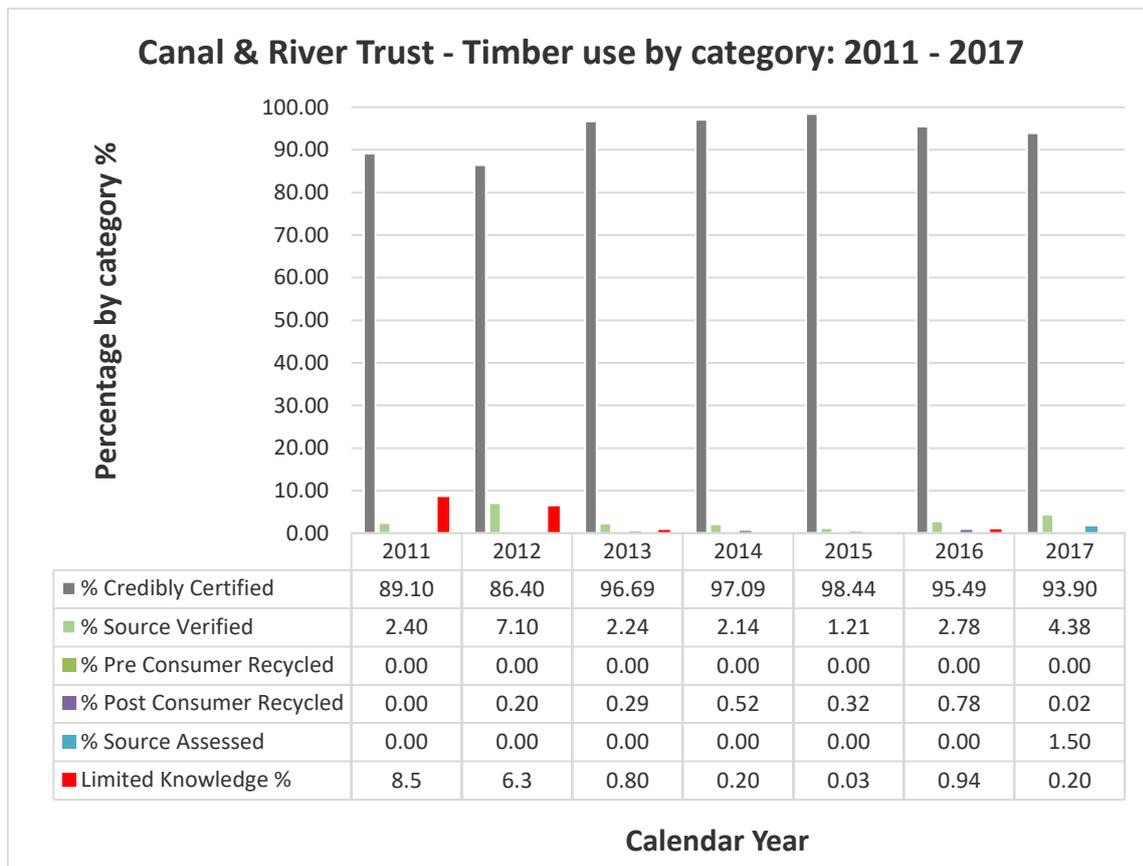
4.38% Source Verified (including e.g. PEFC purchased with Chain of Custody)

0.02% Recycled

1.5% Source Assessed

NOTE: Remaining 0.2 % is “limited knowledge”. During 2017, the majority within this category is office paper that brings various quality control labels – e.g. EU ecolabel, but is not FSC nor PEFC material. An action for the Trust during 2018 is to examine the credentials of such schemes and where applicable to alter our sources accordingly.

In the past 7 years, our procurement of forest products, towards more responsible sourcing, has progressed as shown in the chart below.



Scope of reporting

Materials from directly operated construction sites and offices, plus general consumption / use of timber products across The Trust’s own activities across a 2,200-mile canal and river network.

Challenges

As noted in recent reports our ongoing challenge is to avoid complacency – to continue to uphold our firm stance on procuring sustainable timber / paper products, and to look for ways to continually improve. We will do this by devoting resources towards tracking our purchases, liaising with suppliers and where necessary altering the products that we source from our supply chains.

Priorities

- Examine sources of paper supply that fall within “limited knowledge” category – e.g. those assessed as EU Ecolabel. Review suitability and if necessary amend paper types used within the offices of the Trust

- Continue to resource our rigorous examination of timber supply via our Purchase to Payment Team
- Increase our presence and contribution to the WWF GFTN process

Our Policy

The use of credibly certified timber products forms a major part of our “Green Plan” work. Our Purchase to Payment team and Environment Staff lead on this process – motivating, educating and empowering all staff to “do our bit”.

Our outlook on sustainable timber can be found via the following link:

<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/about-us/our-work/caring-for-our-environment/the-green-plan>