



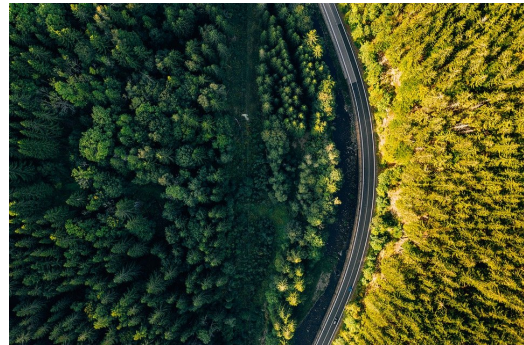
The Outlook

January 2021

A trusted source of environmental information

Forest Certification Update 2021: The Pace of Change

The success of forest certification is apparent in positive growth trends over the past two decades. However, evolution is needed to support improved impact and measurable outcomes. Competition between certification programs can be beneficial, but it should be occurring in ways that make a meaningful difference in addressing drivers of deforestation, creating economic growth and employment opportunities, and supporting more equitable access to natural resources. Instead, marketplace behaviors have led to the expansion of double-certification and other inefficiencies. A starting place for arresting this trend is with supply chain influencers embracing a program neutral stance or at least a ranked choice approach and allowing for alternatives rather than program exclusion.



In this **report**, we provide an update on the major forest certification programs and benchmark their status globally and within North America. We also examine how marketplace and policy initiatives are outpacing certification and what is needed to keep these programs relevant in the years ahead.

Hartman, local grainshed advocate, joins board

Dovetail Partners Inc. is pleased to welcome Alyssa Hartman, Executive Director of the **Artisan Grain Collaborative (AGC)** to the Board of Directors. Dovetail Partners is a member of the AGC and Hartman's participation on the Board will further strengthen this partnership. AGC works throughout the Midwest. Its mission is "to create a diverse regional grain shed built upon regenerative agriculture practices that steward the health of communities, local economies, and natural resources."



"We are thrilled to have Alyssa join our Board. Her expertise in agriculture and local food systems will be invaluable as Dovetail builds and expands our portfolio of research on the environmental impacts of agricultural land use and policy initiatives," says Ashley McFarland, Dovetail executive director. "I have had the great pleasure to work with Alyssa over the past year and believe she will greatly broaden our network as we dive deeper into regenerative agriculture issues."

Dovetail Intern Spotlight

Hello! I am Roheyatou Ceesay, a second-year student at Macalester College, pursuing an undergraduate degree in geology. When I'm not running around the streets looking for new bagel spots, I'm roaming the Mississippi River in search of cool fossils. My internship for Dovetail Partners will focus on urban geology and its potential impact on future cities, specifically in the wake of climate change's intensifying influence on the environment.



Recent Highlights



Harry Groot, a Dovetail Associate, shared Dovetail research at US Biochar Initiative's Biochar Week. Access his presentation "Expanding Knowledge of Biochar and Strengthening Markets" [here](#). The entire line-up of Biochar Week presentations can be viewed on-demand from the [US Biochar Initiative's YouTube channel](#).



The volume of wood removed in urban settings each year is substantial, creating a costly bottleneck of material that is often destined for the landfill. The recently published [Urban Wood Use Program brochure](#) seeks to outline steps for developing a successful urban wood utilization program.



The recording is now available of Urban Wood Academy's November webinar with a facilitated Q&A by Dovetail's Katie Fernholz. Webinars can be found [here](#). Listen to a recording of November's webinar [here](#).



Mark Jacobs - Forest Stewards Guild Appointment

The Forest Stewards Guild Membership and Policy Council (MPC) has named new representatives for the 2021-2023 term, elected by Professional Guild members. Congratulations to Mark Jacobs, a Dovetail Associate, who is returning for a second term. The MPC supervises the development of Guild policy and position statements and the modification of Mission and Principles. The MPC also addresses issues related to membership and member services. Read more [here](#).

Dovetail supports progress and change to address inequality.

Connect with us



www.dovetailinc.org
+1-612-333-0430

Copyright © 2020 Dovetail Partners, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Dovetail Partners, Inc. - A Trusted Source of Environmental Information

Dovetail Partners is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Dovetail Partners, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer.