

BRIEFING NOTE FOR INFORMATION

DATE: January 7, 2022

PREPARED FOR: Honourable Katrine Conroy, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

ISSUE: New Requirements for Pine Logs and Lumber into China

BACKGROUND:

- In October 2021, Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) received notification regarding potential changes to China's import requirements for pine (*Pinus* spp.) lumber and logs.
- China invited comments from Canada regarding the potential trade implications prior to issuing a formal World Trade Organization (WTO) notification. The deadline to provide comments to China was Friday, October 22nd, 2021.
- China communicated the implementation of the new import requirements regarding pine wood (*Pinus* spp.) including logs and lumber on December 24, 2021.
 - The new requirements will come into force as of February 1, 2022, and
 - are applicable to *Pinus* spp. originating from the following countries: Canada, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Portugal, Spain and USA.

DISCUSSION:

Requirements for Pine Lumber:

1. Pine lumber must be heat treated to 56 degrees Celsius for 30 minutes (core temperature) and the treatment must be indicated on the phytosanitary certificate.
2. If not heat-treated, the lumber must meet the same phytosanitary requirements as for logs (see below).

The new requirements for pine lumber meet the current industry standard – SPF is heat treated to 56 degrees for 30 minutes. This is positive that China accepted our treatment regime as effective.

Requirement for Pine Logs:

1. Pine logs must be sampled and tested for Pine Wood Nematode (PWN) prior to export. If PWN is detected, the logs cannot be exported to China.
2. If PWN is **not detected**, the logs must be fumigated with Methyl Bromide (MB) or Sulphuryl fluoride (SF) and accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with treatment details.

s.16; s.17



s.16; s.17

Ports that will accept pine logs and lumber:

Jiangsu: Lianyungang (Ganyu Port, Yanwei Port, New Oriental Wharf); Nanjing (Longtan Wharf, Xinshengwei Port).

Zhejiang: Ningbo Beilun Port, Zhoushan Port, Wenzhou Port, Taizhou Port.

Fujian: Fuzhou Port (Mawei, Jiangyin).

Shandong: Huangdao Port, Rizhao Port, Rizhao Lanshan Port, Dongjiakou Port.

Guangdong: Foshan Nanhai Sanshan Port, Zhaoqing New Port, Huangpu Port, Dongguan Port, Zhuhai Wanzai Port, Shantou Guang'ao Port.

NEXT STEPS:

Staff continue to work with Industry and Ottawa to understand the implications of the new requirements.

Attachment(s): October 20, 2021 Early Warning Note Potential New Treatment Requirements for SPF Logs and Lumber into China.

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Early Warning Note

Date: **October 20, 2021**

CLIFF: 267876

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Issue: Potential New Treatment Requirements for SPF Logs and Lumber into China.

Briefing Note to follow: Yes

Background:

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) received a notification from China regarding potential changes to China's import requirements for pine (*Pinus* spp.) lumber and logs.

The notification indicates that China is proposing that all pine lumber and logs be tested by the exporting country for pinewood nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*) prior to export. If the results of the test are positive, the product will not be eligible for export to China and if the results are negative, heat treatment at 71.1 °C for 75 minutes or fumigation prior to export will be required. The standard heat treatment used in Canada (and accepted as the industry standard in most of the world) is 56°C for 30 minutes and has been demonstrated to kill PWN. The proposed sampling and lab testing of all pine logs and lumber for export to China is not feasible to implement given the volume of shipments.

CFIA will be providing comments to China by Friday October 22 and has requested any input from industry by end of day October 21. COFI and CanadaWood have been notified of the proposed measures and will be supplying information to the CFIA.

China is British Columbia's second largest export market for softwood lumber. B.C. has exported an average 1,200 million boardfeet of SPF lumber exports to China in the last 3 years (2018-2020).

Suggested Response:

- We are aware of the notification from China regarding potential new treatment requirements for log and lumber products made from pine.
- We are working with our partners in the Federal Government and with industry to provide information demonstrating our lumber products are safe and do not pose any risk to forests in China.



Background on Pinewood nematode

Pinewood nematode (PWN), *Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*, is the causal agent of pine wilt disease (PWD). PWD is one of the most destructive diseases of trees of the genus *Pinus* and is responsible for environmental and economic losses around the world, including countries such as Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China, and Portugal.

PWN is native to North America and is found in pine, but the pine wilt disease is not found in Canadian forests. The transmission of PWN between host trees is mediated by insect vector, in Canada commonly known as pine sawyer beetle.