



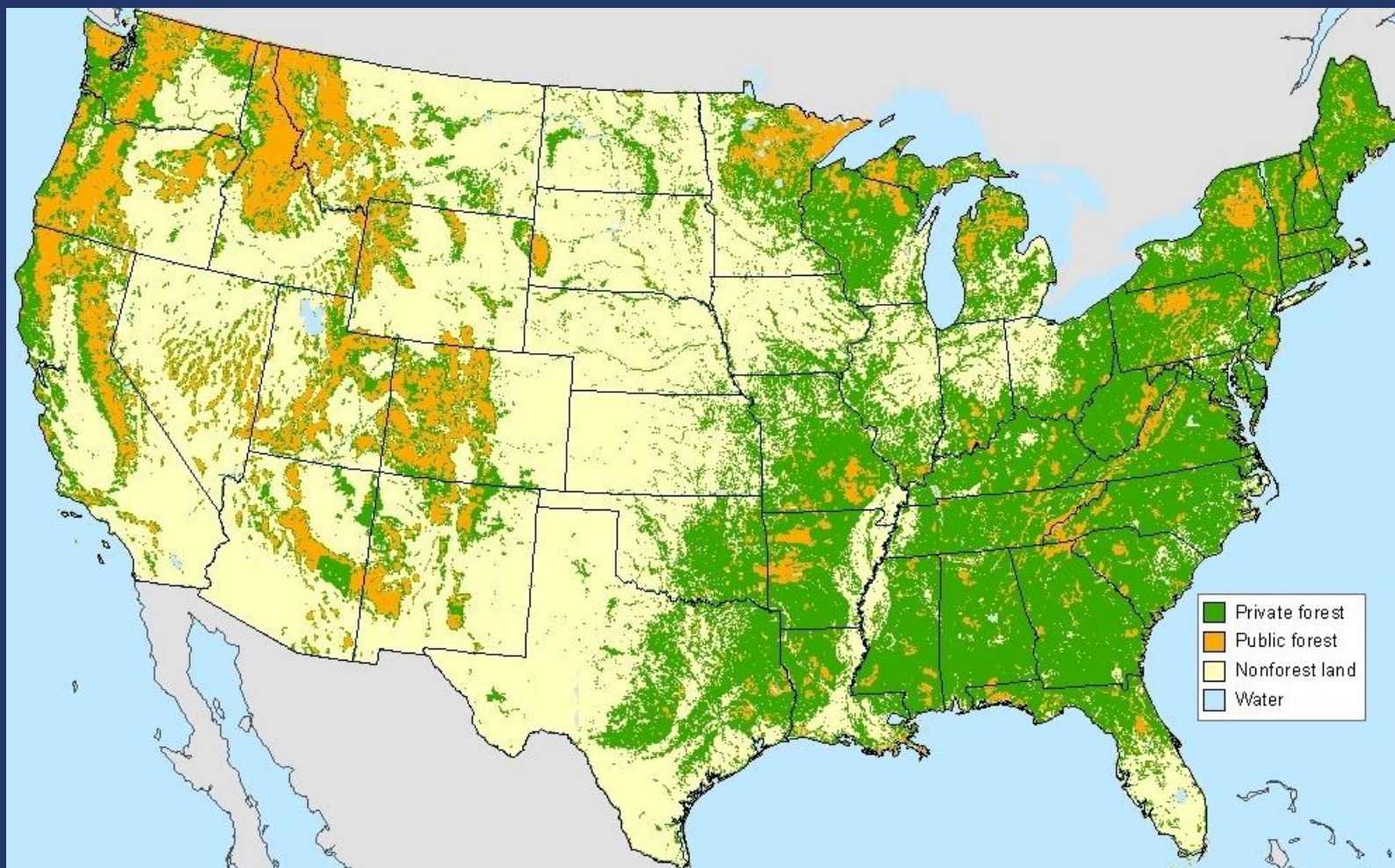
American Hardwoods and the EU Anti-Deforestation Law

Michael S. Snow

American Hardwood Export Council

March 2023

PROPIEDAD DE LOS BOSQUES EN EE.UU. (2014)



Producido por USDA Forest Service, Northern Research Station Forest Inventory and Analysis,
Family Forest Research Center, Brett J. Butler 2014



UN RECURSO FORESTAL EQUIVALENTE AL TAMAÑO DE ...

... la superficie total conjunta de España, Francia, Bélgica y Holanda.



DEMOSTRANDO LA SOSTENIBILIDAD DE LOS PRODUCTOS DE FRONDOSAS ESTADOUNIDENSES

Evaluación del riesgo forestal

(Estudio Seneca Creek

FIA

(Forest Service &
Inventory
Analysis)

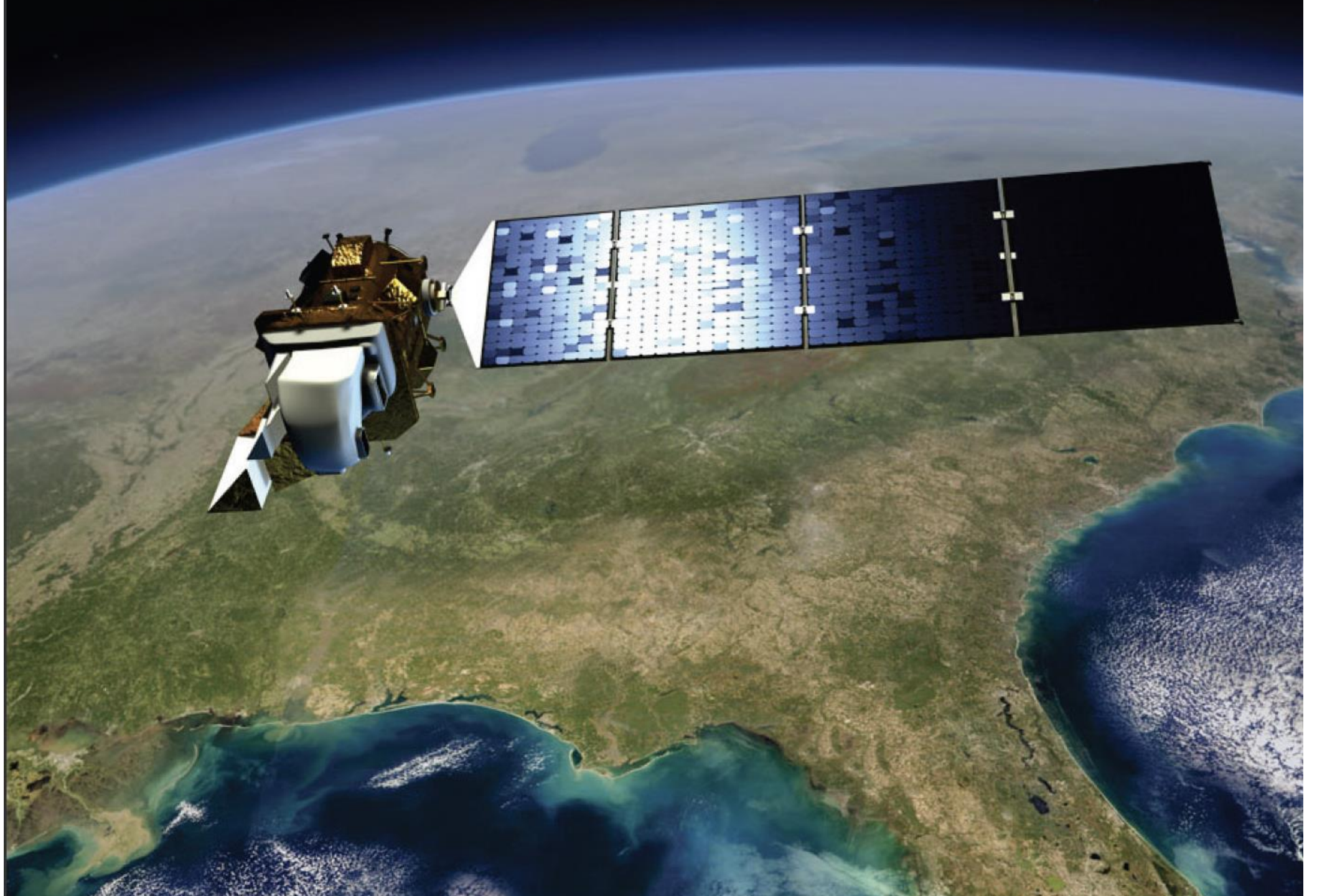
LCA

(Life Cycle
Assessment – Análisis del
Ciclo de Vida)

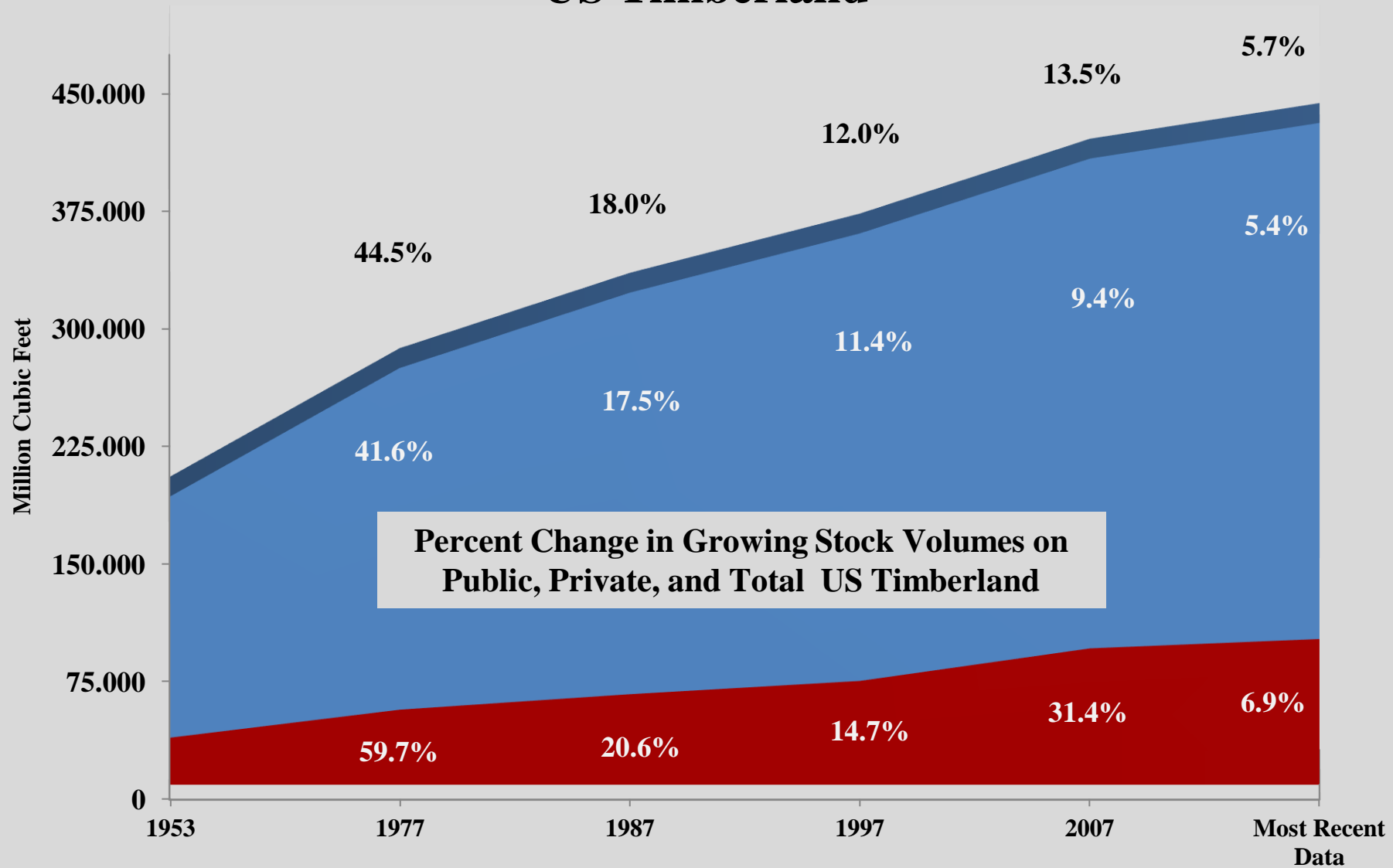
AHEP

(American Hardwood
Environmental Profile – Perfil
medioambiental de las
frondosas estadounidenses)





Net Volume of Hardwood Growing Stocks on US Timberland

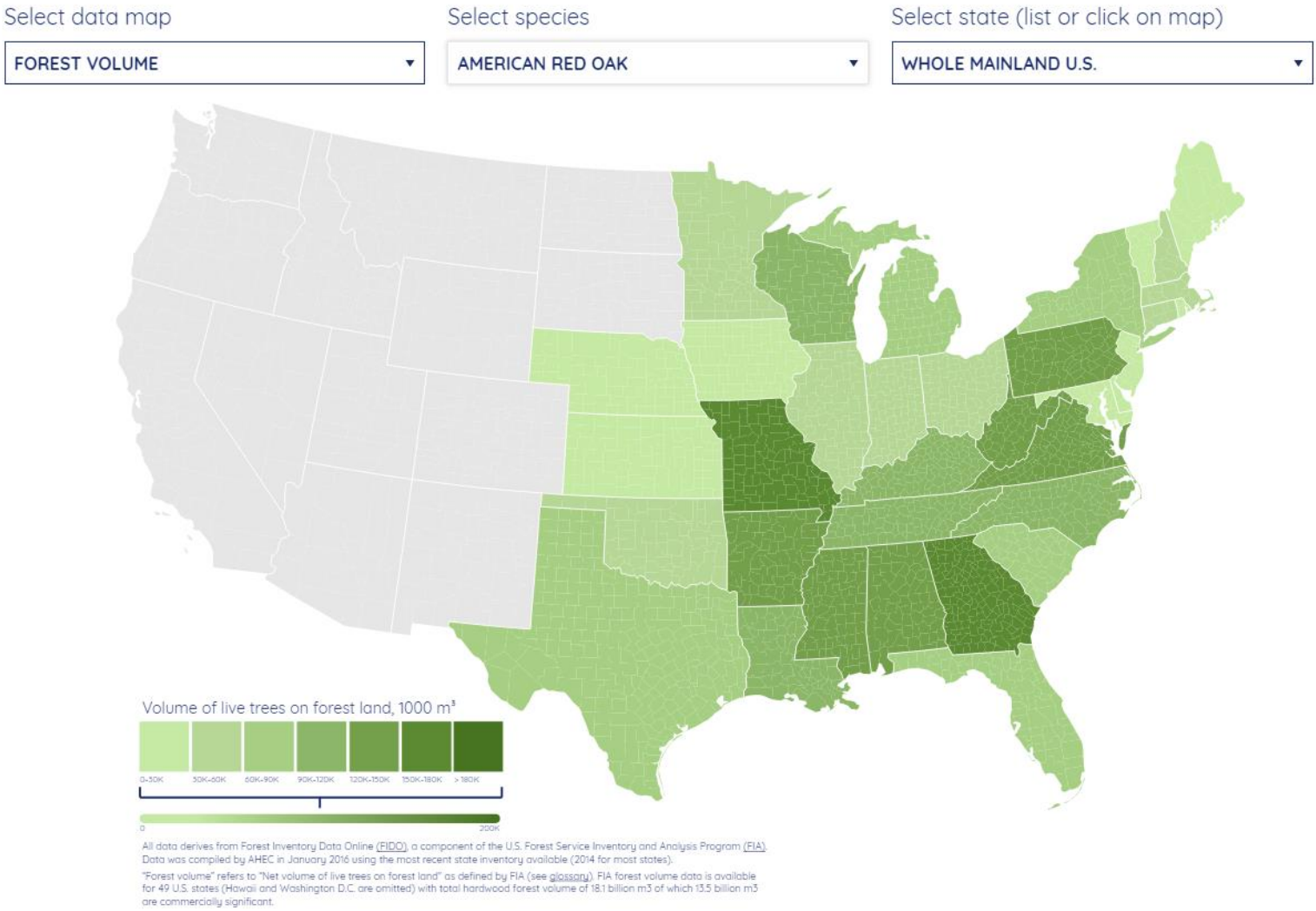


Source: UDSA Forest Service

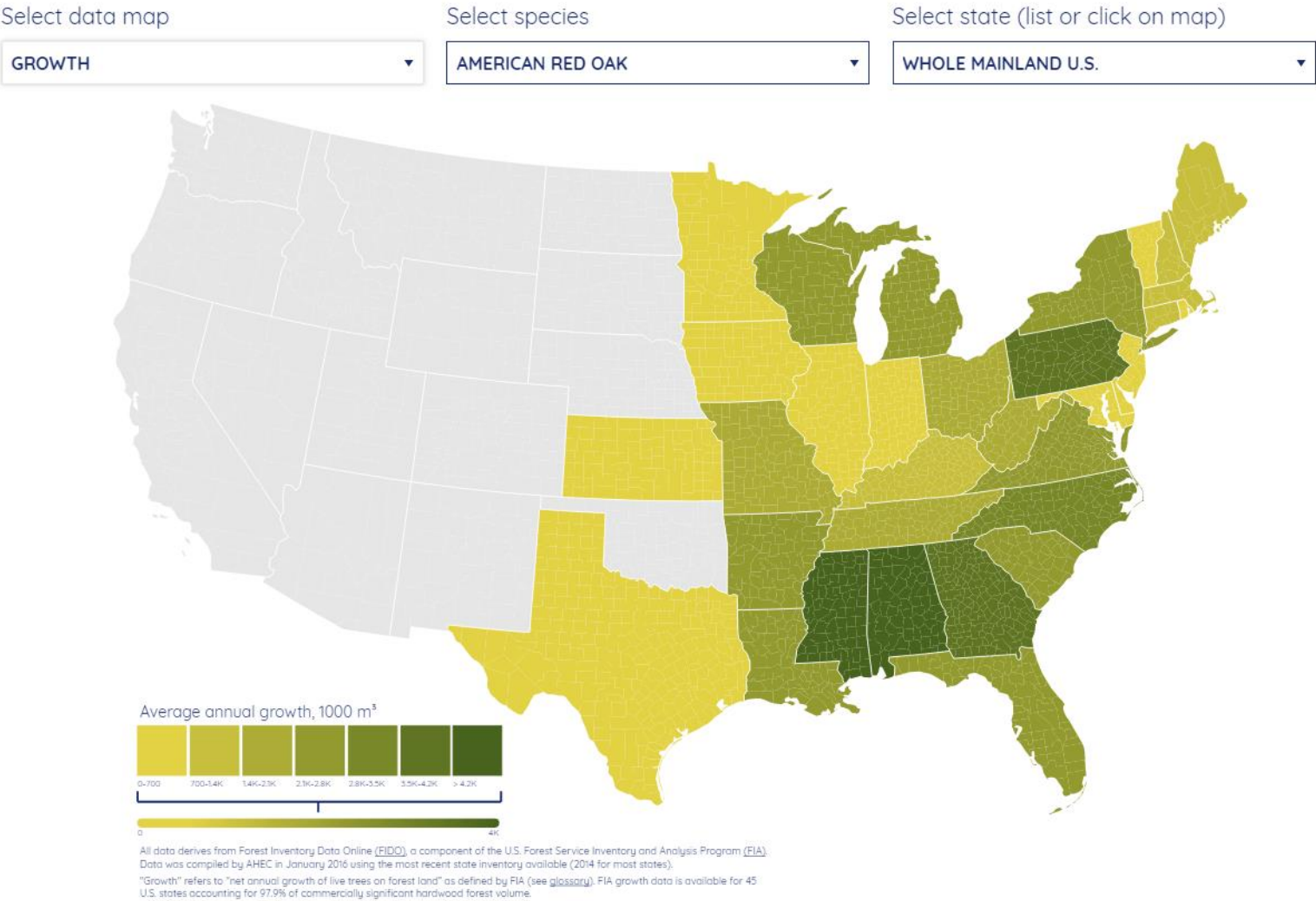
■ Total Public ■ Privately Held

Graph: HMR *Executive*®

MAPA FORESTAL INTERACTIVO DE AHEC - VOLUMEN DE ROBLE ROJO EN EE.UU.



MAPA FORESTAL INTERACTIVO DE AHEC - CRECIMIENTO DE ROBLE ROJO EN EE.UU.

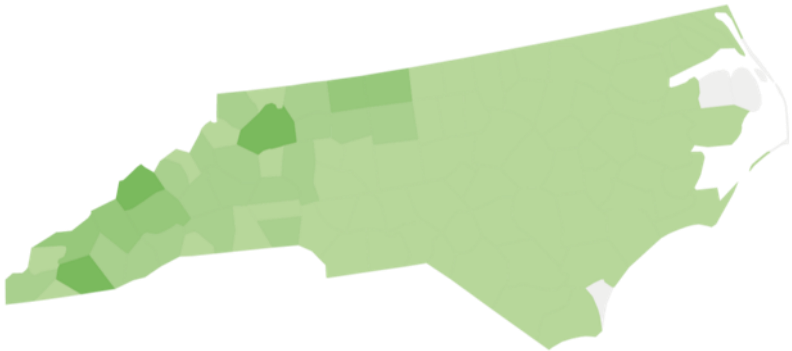


MAPA FORESTAL INTERACTIVO DE AHEC - DATOS A NIVEL DE CONDADO

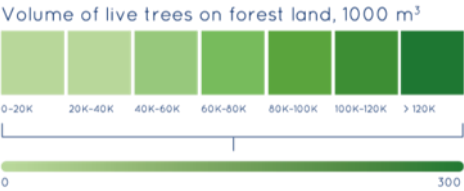
Select data map
FOREST VOLUME

Select species
AMERICAN TULIPWOOD

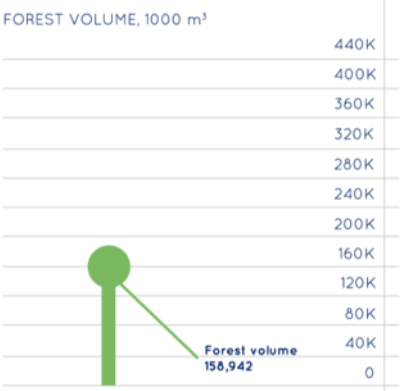
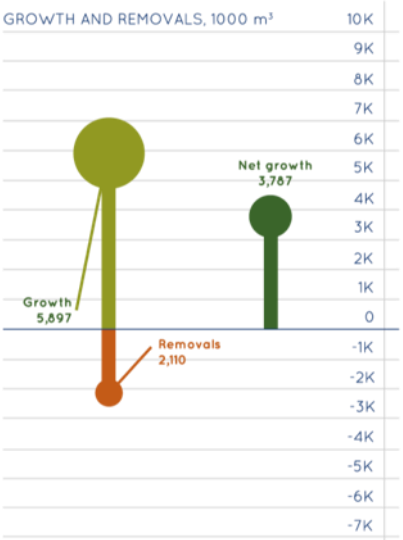
Select state (list or click on map)
NORTH CAROLINA



[Back to whole of U.S.](#)



All data derives from Forest Inventory Data Online (FIDO), a component of the U.S. Forest Service Inventory and Analysis Program (FIA). Data was compiled by AHEC in January 2016 using the most recent state inventory available (2014 for most states). "Forest volume" refers to "net volume of live trees on forest land" as defined by FIA. FIA forest volume data is available for 49 U.S. states (Hawaii and Washington D.C. are omitted) with total hardwood forest volume of 18.1 billion m³ of which 13.5 billion m³ are commercially significant. "Growth" refers to "net annual growth of live trees on forest land" as defined by FIA. FIA forest volume data is available for 49 U.S. states (Hawaii and Washington D.C. are omitted) with total hardwood forest volume of 18.1 billion m³ of which 13.5 billion m³ are commercially significant.



HERRAMIENTA PARA LA EVALUACIÓN DEL CICLO DE VIDA

GROWN IN SECONDS

Select species
American red oak

Select lumber thickness
4/4 (1 inch)

Select export port
East Coast

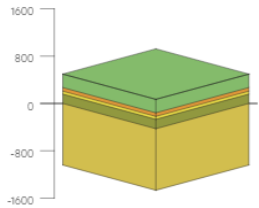
Select import port
W. Europe

0.57
seconds

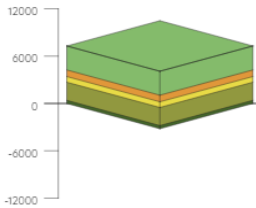
it takes 0.57 seconds to
grow 1m³ of American
red oak

The replacement rate is calculated from total U.S. annual increment of the specified hardwood species derived from the U.S. Forest Service Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program and assumes that 2 m³ of logs is harvested to produce 1 m³ of lumber (i.e. 50% conversion efficiency). The rapid rate of replacement is due to the very large volume of hardwood trees in U.S. forest.

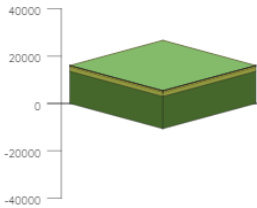
Global Warming Potential (Kg CO₂ -eq)



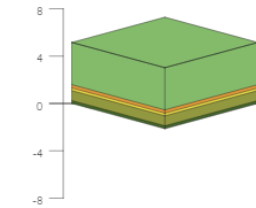
Primary Energy Demand from Resources (MJ)



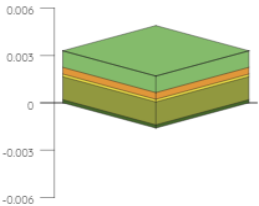
Primary Energy Demand from Renewables (MJ)



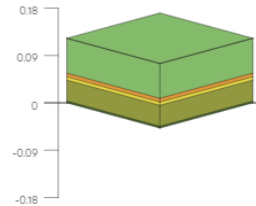
Acidification Potential (Moles of H⁺ eq.)



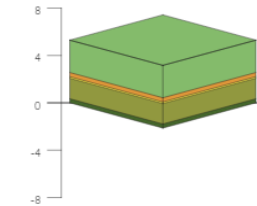
Freshwater Eutrophication Potential (Kg P -eq)



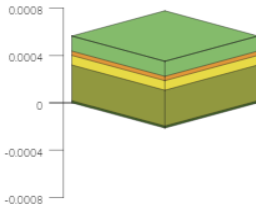
Marine Eutrophication Potential (Kg N -eq)



Photochemical Ozone Creation Potential (Kg NMVOC)



Resource Depletion (Kg Sb -eq.)



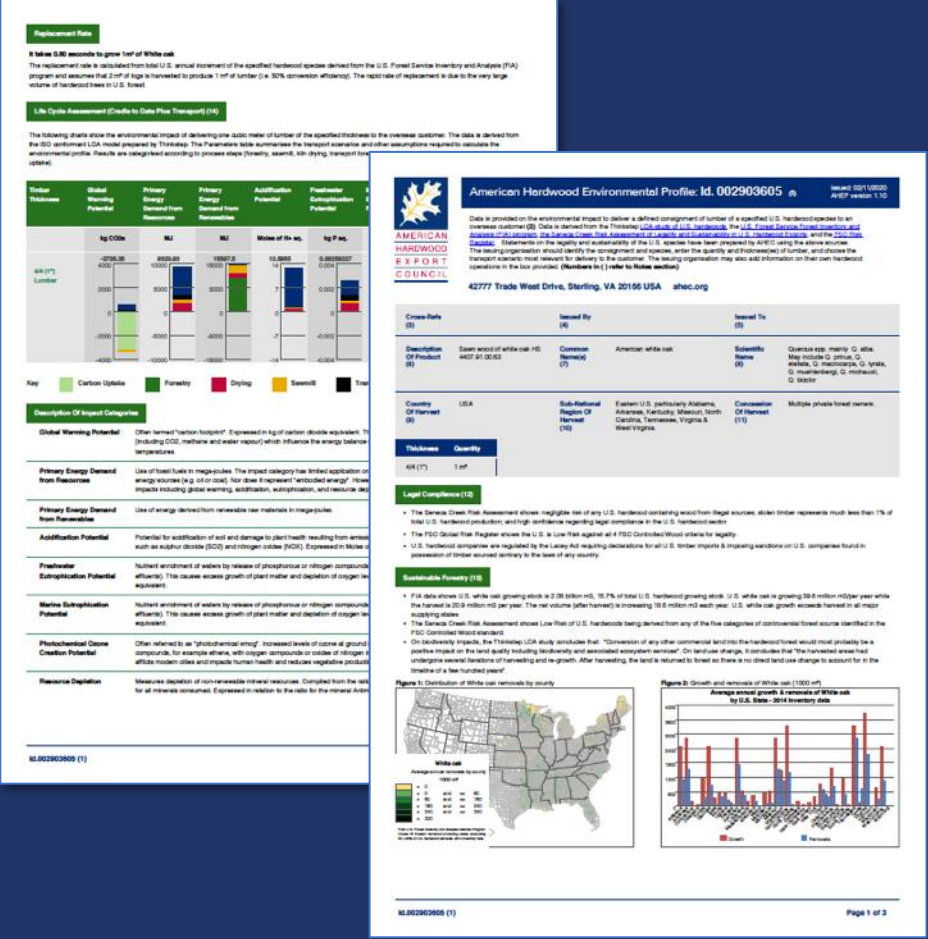
Key

- Forestry
- Drying
- Sawmill
- Transport Forest-Kiln
- Transport Kiln-Customer
- Carbon uptake

TIEMPOS DE
REGENERACIÓN Y 8
TIPOS DE IMPACTOS
MEDIOAMBIENTALES
DE TODAS LAS
ESPECIES



AMERICAN HARDWOOD ENVIRONMENTAL PROFILE (AHEP)



Informe sobre el impacto ambiental de cada producto enviado a clientes localizados en cualquier parte del mundo, referente a ocho aspectos clave del suministro.

Ahora todos los exportadores estadounidenses de madera de frondosas pueden proporcionarlo junto a cada envío.



EU Deforestation Legislation

- As written, it would require all wood products to be tied to a geolocation unit – **the individual landowner**
 - Same for wood products that go into Europe from Vietnam, etc.
 - Also affects soy, beef, palm oil, coffee, and cocoa
- Geolocation Requirement means importers will favor industrial plantations and state-owned forest land
- Many producers in rural communities practicing **low intensity forest management** will be locked out of this market

AHEC Response to EU Deforestation Law

Scan this QR Code for a summary of the law and AHEC's proposed solutions

EU Commission and Parliament have passed this law,
Could be resolved by either:

- Moving geolocation requirement from Article 9 “Information Requirements” to Article 10 “Risk Assessment”
- Redefining “Plot of land” from “single real estate property” to “jurisdiction or state” where there is low risk of illegal harvest or deforestation

We are in a coalition with European wood industry representatives and other Ag. groups to voice concerns

Environmental Groups like Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade International are also proposing amendments

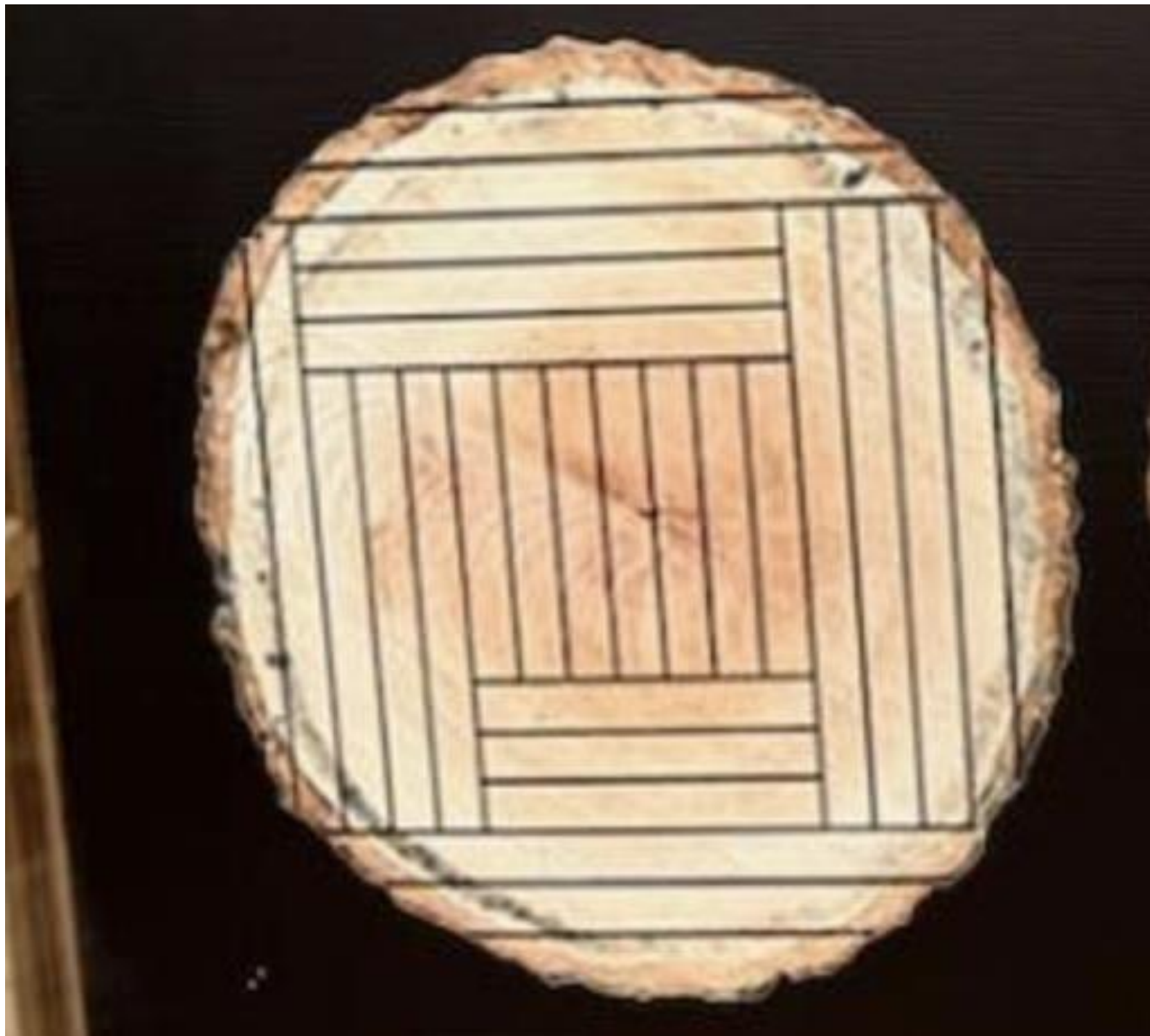


COMPLEX SUPPLY CHAIN



- 90% private landowners.
- 8.7 million small family forest owners
- Less than 150,000 (3%) of family forest owners certified.
- Most owners harvest once in a generation.
- Hardwood timber operators purchase from hundreds of landowners each year.







Sustainable Hardwood Coalition

Proving the sustainability of hardwoods



Aim to develop a cost-effective system
to verify the sustainability of hardwoods
and maximise market opportunities for
sustainable hardwood products

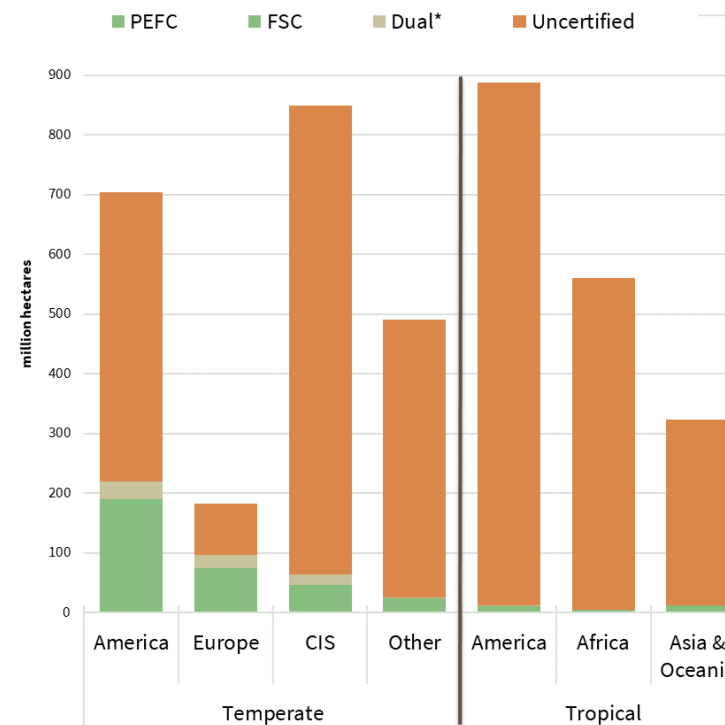
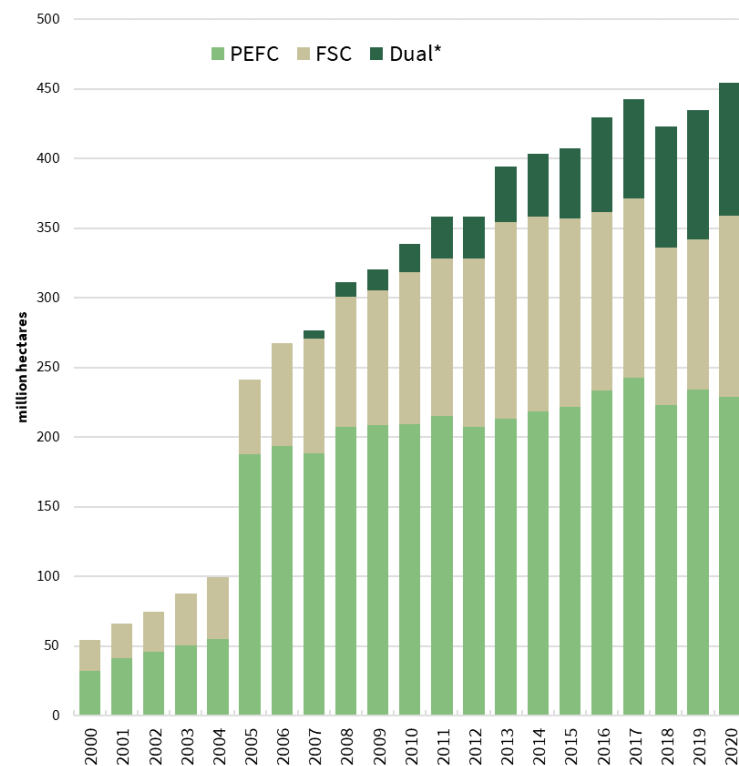
Why is the SHC needed and why now?

Better exploit emerging opportunities

- **Opportunities from policy shifts**
 - Focus on forest governance, zero carbon & zero deforestation
 - Low intensity forest management – diversity, resilience, in face of climate change
 - Recognition of rights of forest dwellers
 - Increased awareness of constraints to FMU-based systems like FSC and PEFC
- **Opportunities from new forms of verification**
 - Due diligence systems & risk-based verification
 - Jurisdictional certification
- **Opportunities from new technologies**
 - Remote sensing
 - Stable isotope ratio analysis
 - DNA footprinting
 - Blockchain
- **Change the conversation around certification, be a leader not a follower**



Global certified forest area

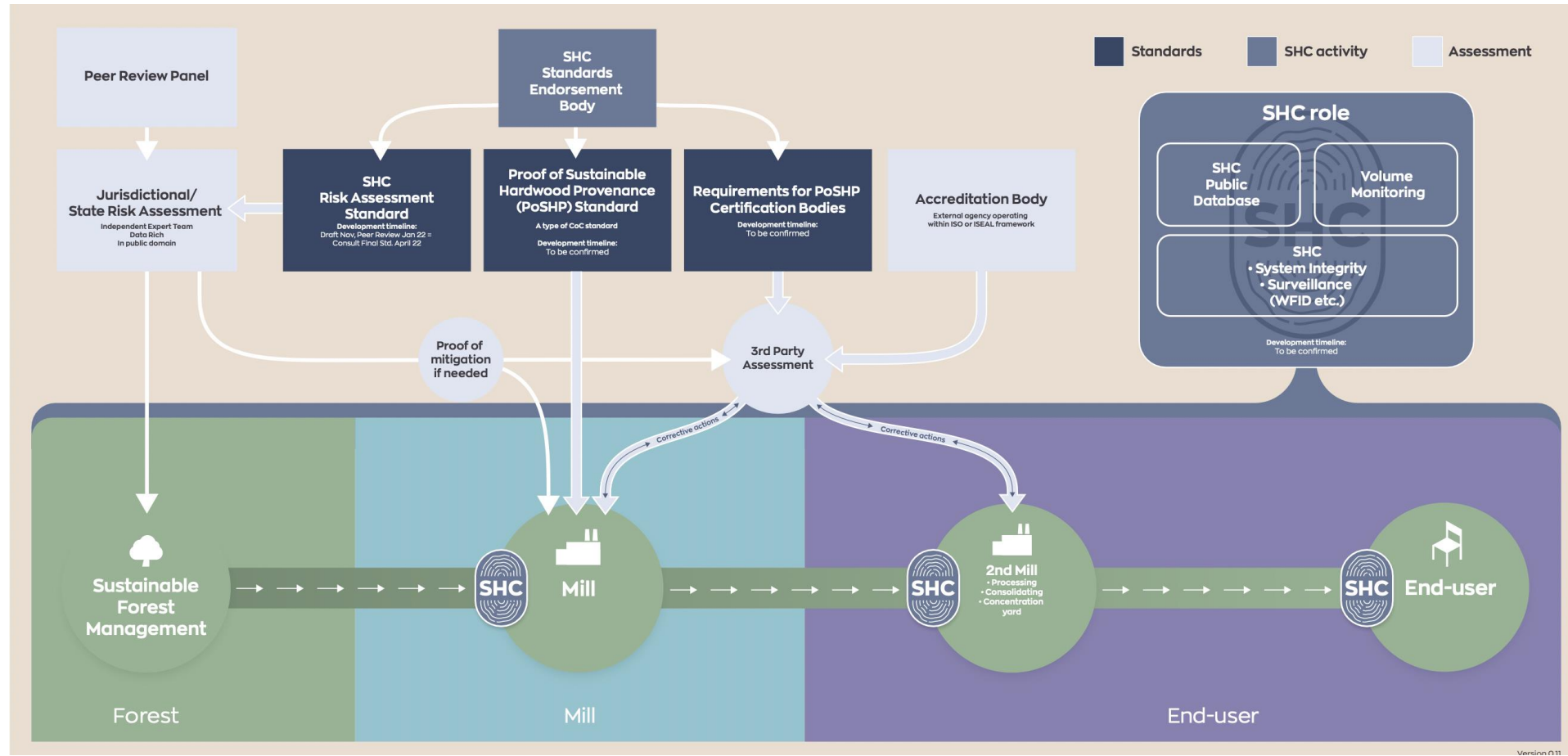


* Dual refers to forest area certified to both FSC and PEFC

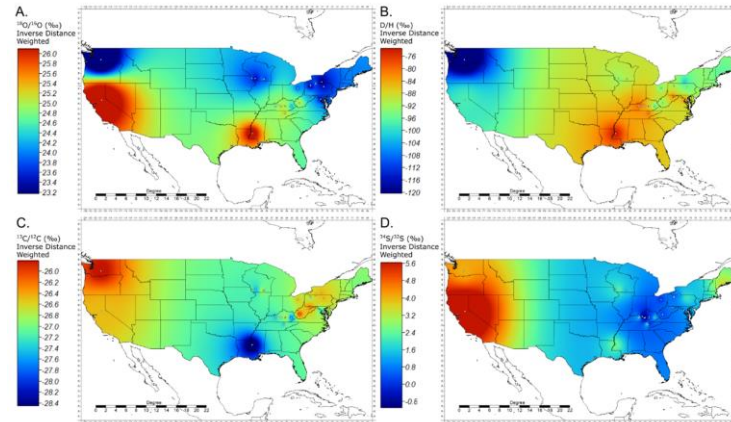
Sources: Certified forest area from FSC & PEFC, dual certified area from joint FSC/PEFC report prepared annually since 2016, estimated in earlier years, global forest area data derived from FAO Forest Resource Assessment

Jurisdictional Certification Proposal:

Sustainable Hardwood Coalition



Innovations: World Forest ID



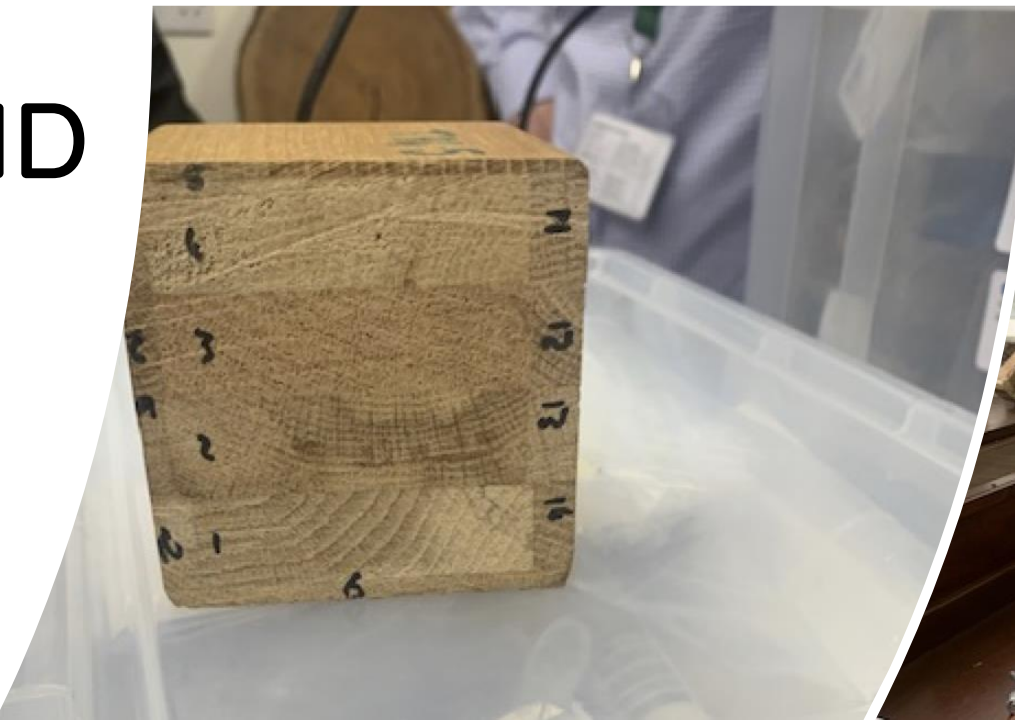
Watkinson et al, 2020, *The Development and Use of Isoscapes to Determine the Geographical Origin of Quercus spp. in the United States*

<https://www.mdpi.com/1999-4907/11/8/862/htm>

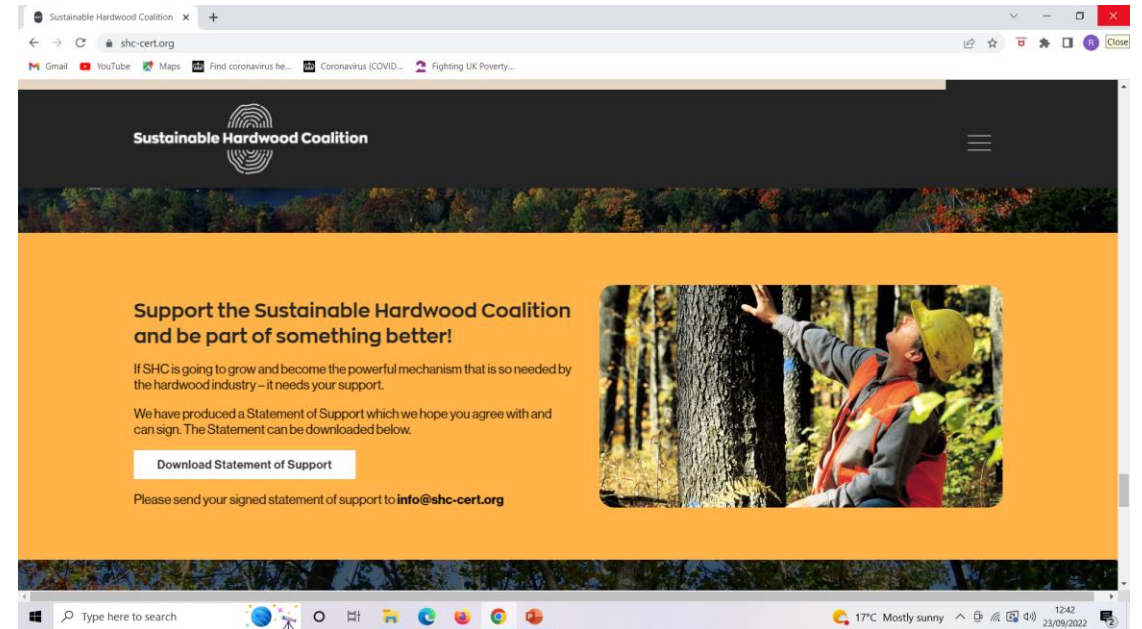
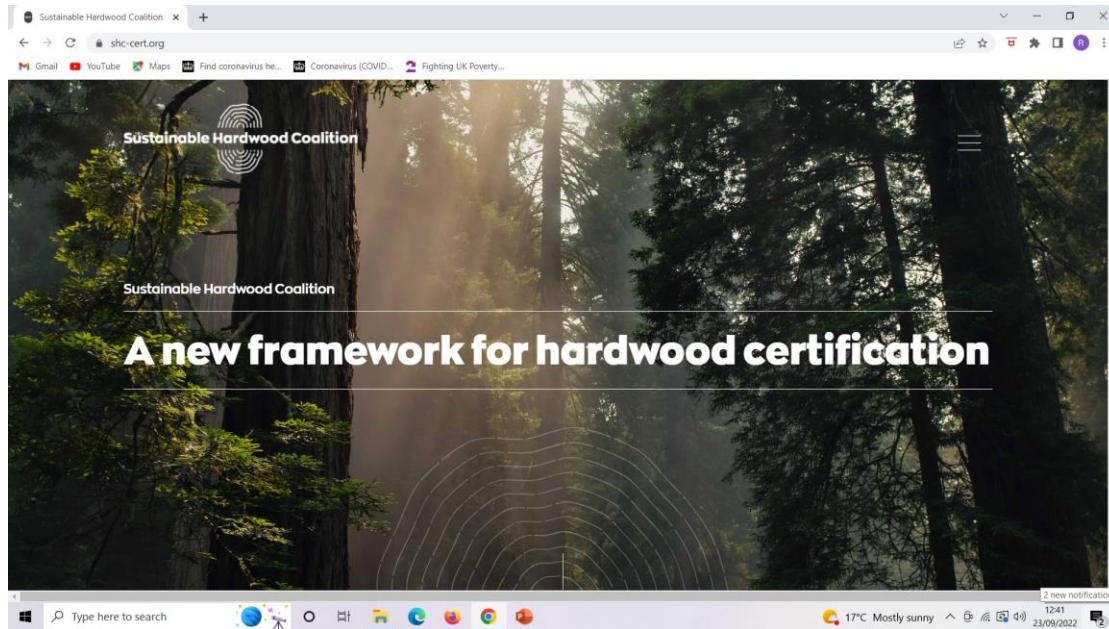
- World Forest ID – consortium comprising US Forest Service International Program, RBS Kew, WRI, FSC, Agroisolab
- Chemical isotope and DNA mapping of timber species
- Initial driver “negative” enforcement role: to identify illegal wood for Lacey/EUTR enforcement
- Link products to well managed source at lower cost and more reliably than CoC
- Marketing benefits from linkage to FIA data, risk assessment, LCA
- Isotope mapping may be particularly beneficial as it is lower cost than DNA analysis
- Currently 125 samples of red & white oak establish origin to “United States level”, possibly state, using a lab isotope test
- World Forest ID now seeking \$6m over 3 years from US government for wide ranging study

Kew Gardens,
London

World Forest ID



<https://www.shc-cert.org>





Statement of Support

We, the undersigned:

- Believe there is a *pressing need to promote and maximise the environmental and socio-economic benefits of increased market access for hardwoods from low intensity forests* – notably with respect to carbon mitigation, support for rural livelihoods, biodiversity conservation, and recognition of indigenous, community and private family ownership rights.
- *Acknowledge the importance of ensuring forest certification procedures in no way compromise, and ideally enhance, efficient utilisation of the hardwood products that managed natural forests can provide in a sustainable manner*, contributing to reduced pressure on forests, reduced energy consumption and waste throughout the supply chain.
- Believe there is a *need to develop a form of certification procedures that avoid imposition of any additional unnecessary costs on low intensity hardwood forest and wood processing operations* that already demonstrate sustainable practices.
- Believe there is a *need to develop a form of certification which aims to maximise the use of new technologies and innovative new procedures* to achieve these objectives.
- Note that *existing forest certification schemes have not succeeded in providing market access for millions of landowners* in many settings for a variety of valid reasons.
- Note that *high levels of forest governance have driven forest management standards upwards towards levels that are sustainable.*

- Believe that at a *jurisdictional level it is possible to risk assess the system of governance and forest practices used in low intensity forestry management to determine whether there is inherent risk of unsustainable or illegal practices.*
- Believe that a *jurisdictional risk assessment has potential to become a valuable tool to assess the legality and sustainability of low intensity hardwood forest management and log supply.*
- Conclude that a *jurisdictional risk assessment process, using bespoke standards and a series of safeguards has the potential to become a viable, low cost and credible certification scheme for hardwoods produced through low intensity management by small forest operators, including private non-industrial owners, local communities and indigenous groups.*

Therefore, we:

- Support the Sustainable Hardwood Coalition in the development of *Sustainable Hardwood Certification* focused on low intensity hardwood production.
- Support *Sustainable Hardwood Coalition* exploring low cost, innovative approaches to certification that allow market access for the many millions of low intensity non-industrial hardwood forest operators around the world.

Name

Position

Company/Organisation name

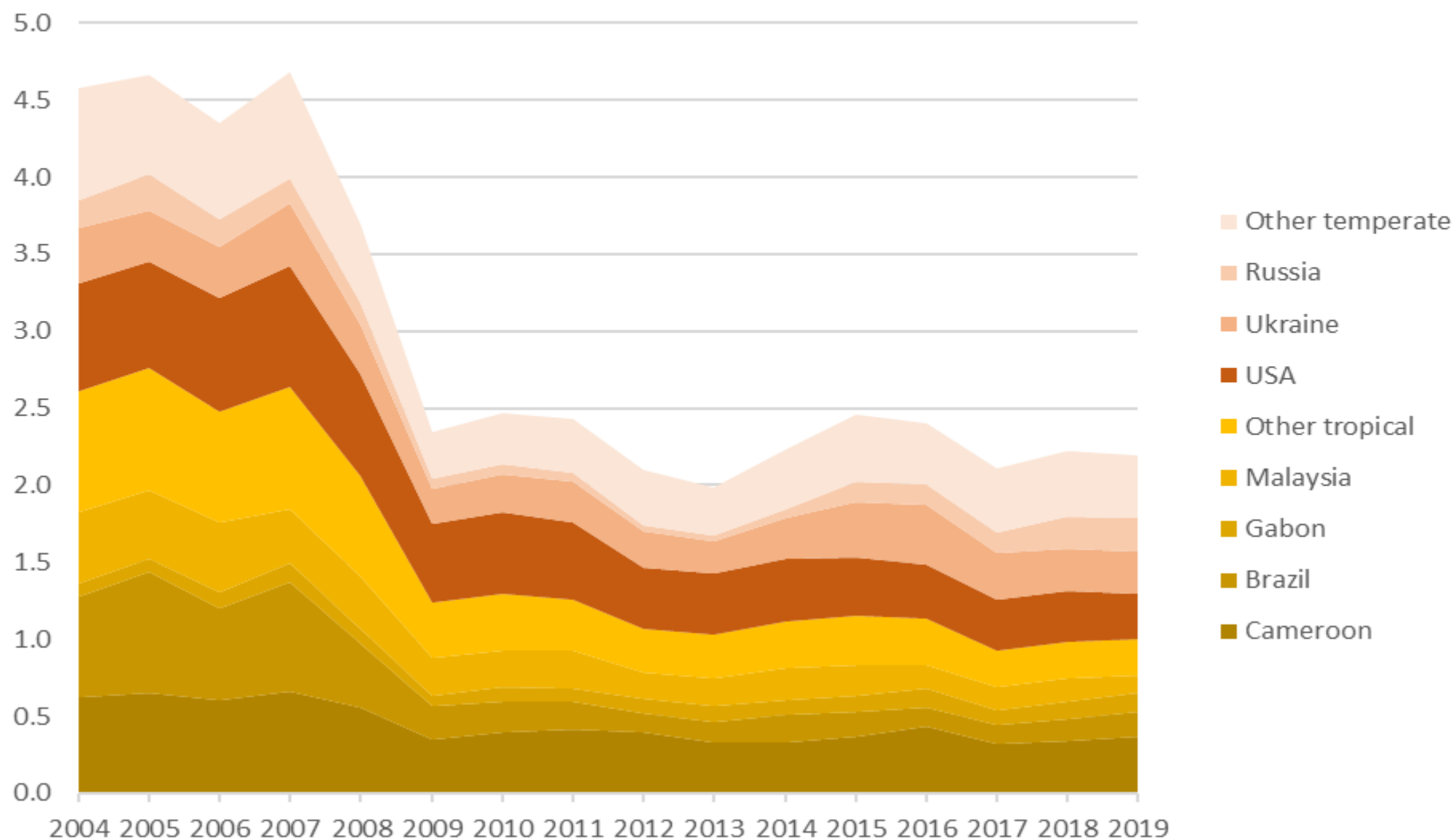
Email address

Signature

Date DD/MM/YYYY

Please email completed form to info@shc-cert.org and visit www.shc-cert.org for more information.

EU28 imports of sawn hardwood, by main supply country 2004 to 2019, million m3

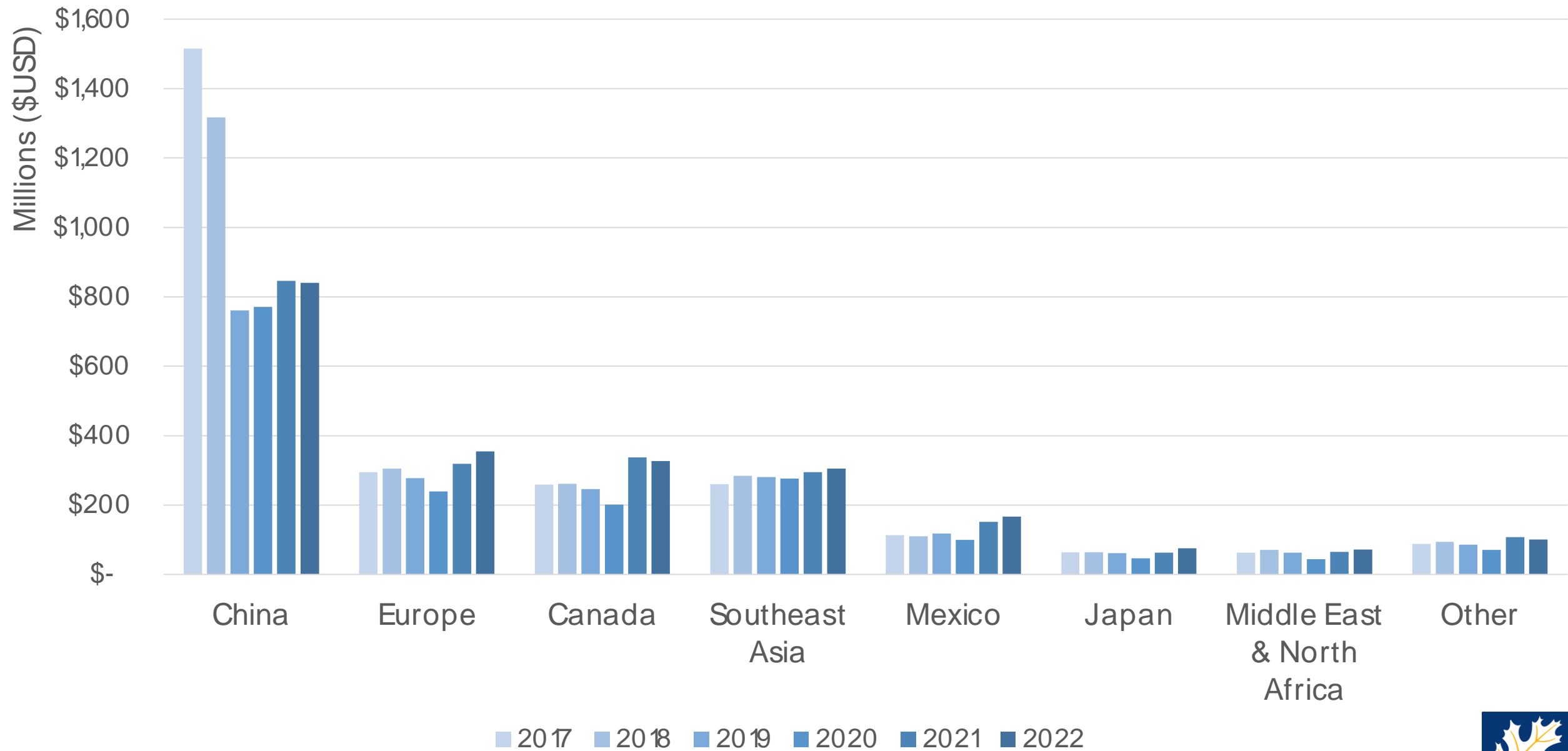


Sustainable Hardwood Coalition Statement of Support

Thank You



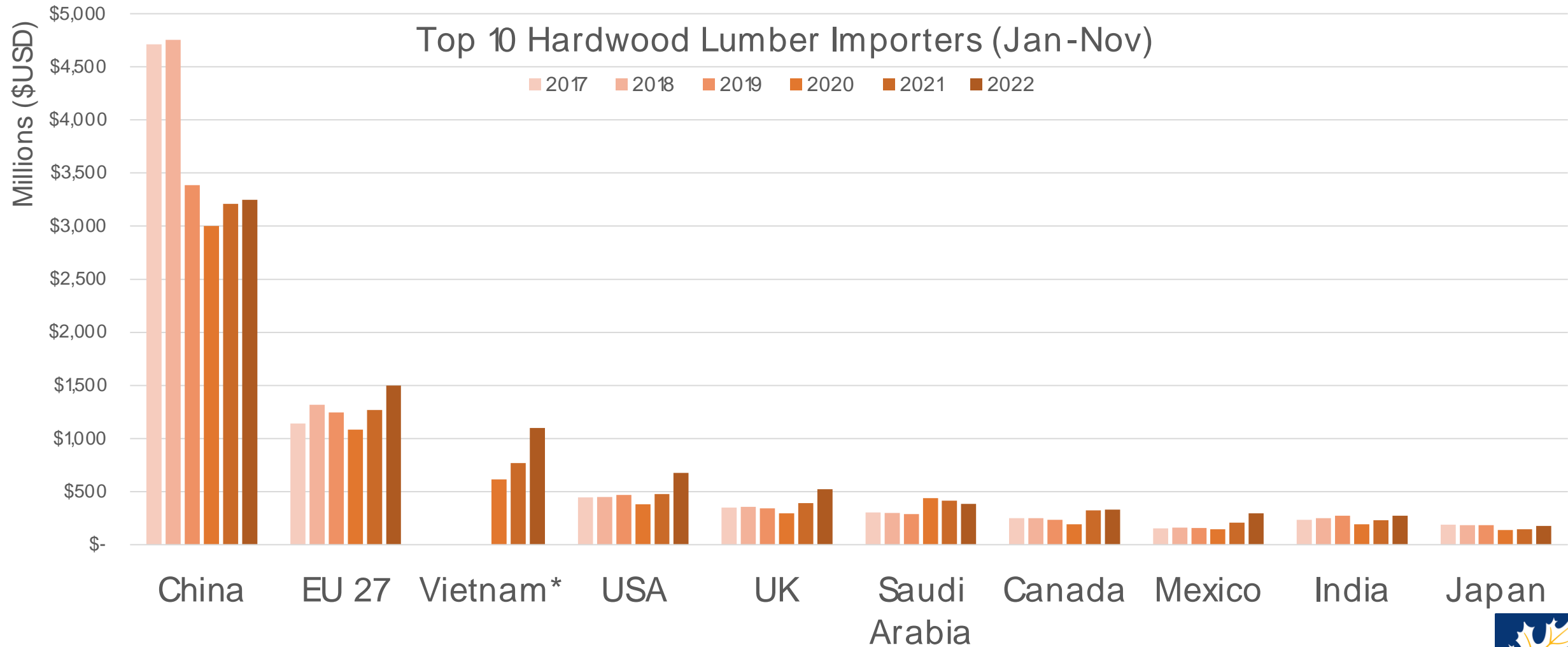
US Hardwood Lumber Exports (\$USD)



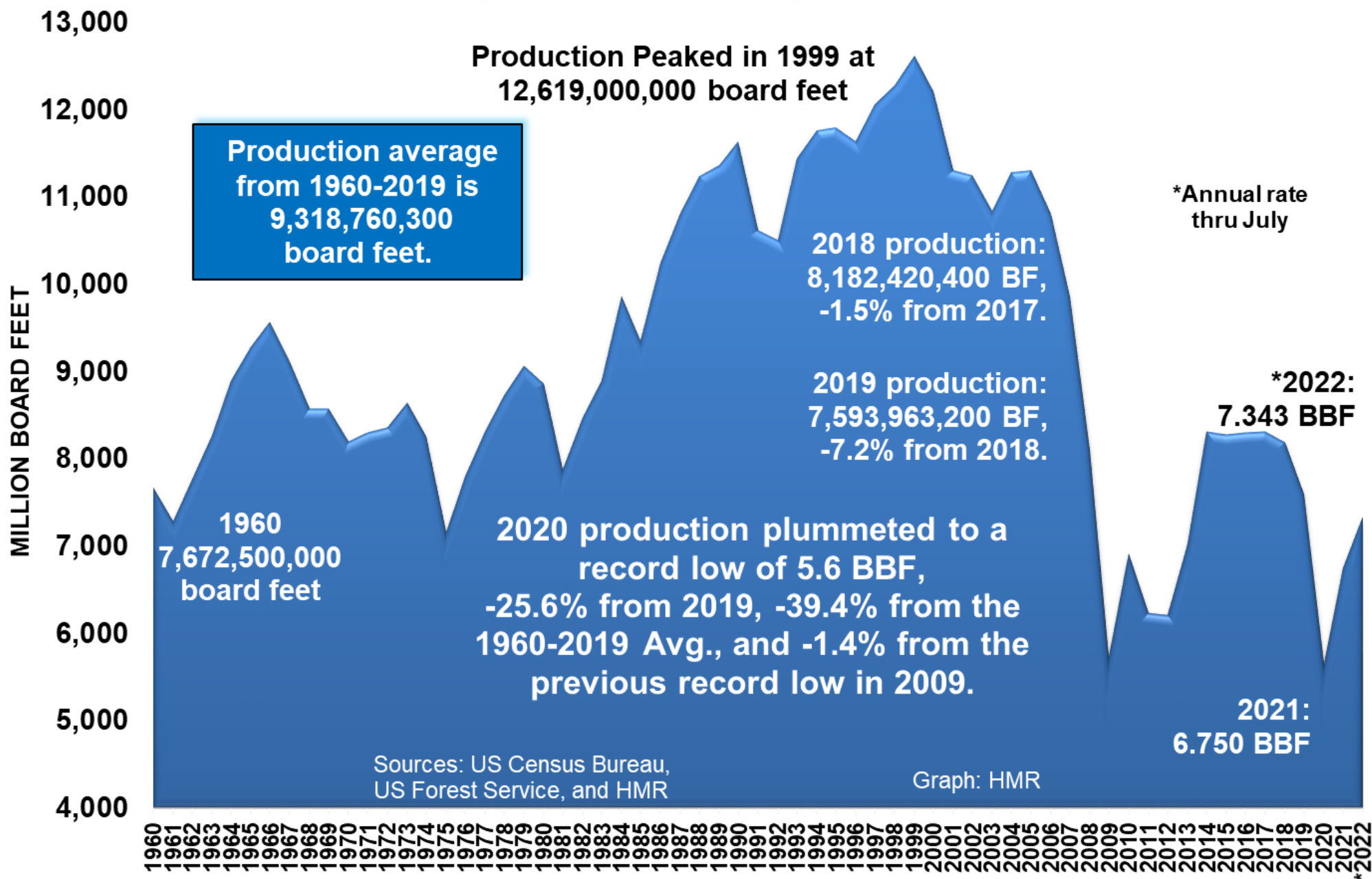
Source: USDA GATS



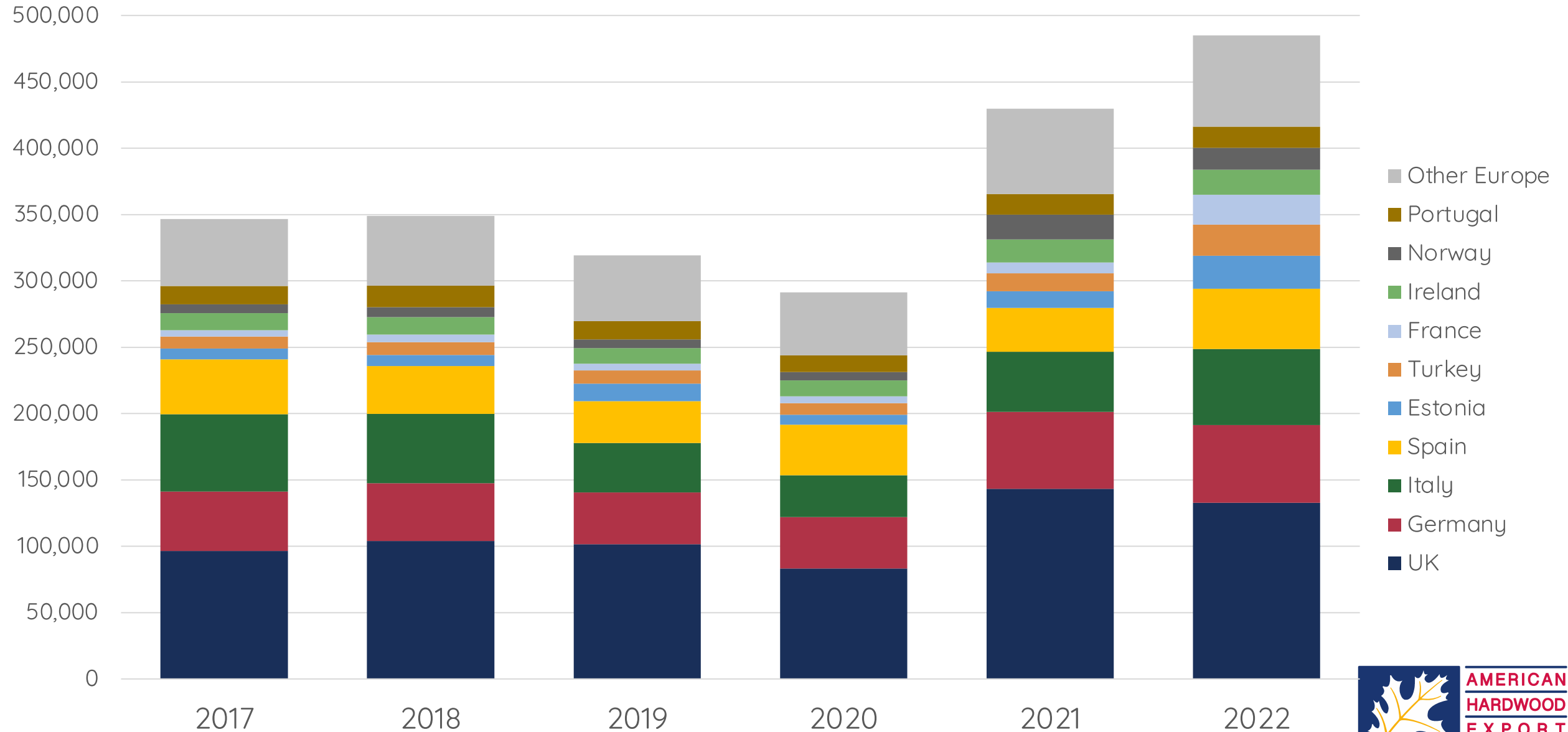
China Still World's Largest Harwood Lumber Importer



Eastern US Hardwood Sawmill Production



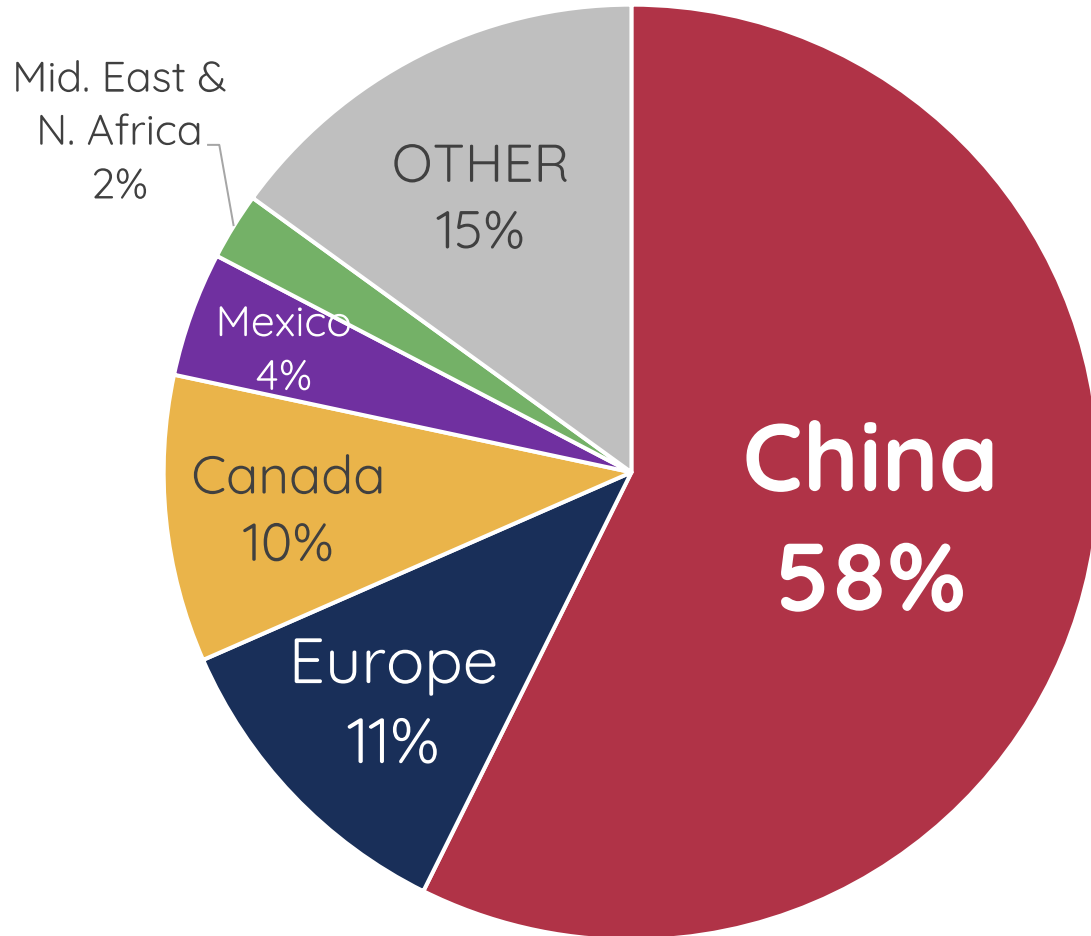
US HDWD Lumber to Europe (m3)



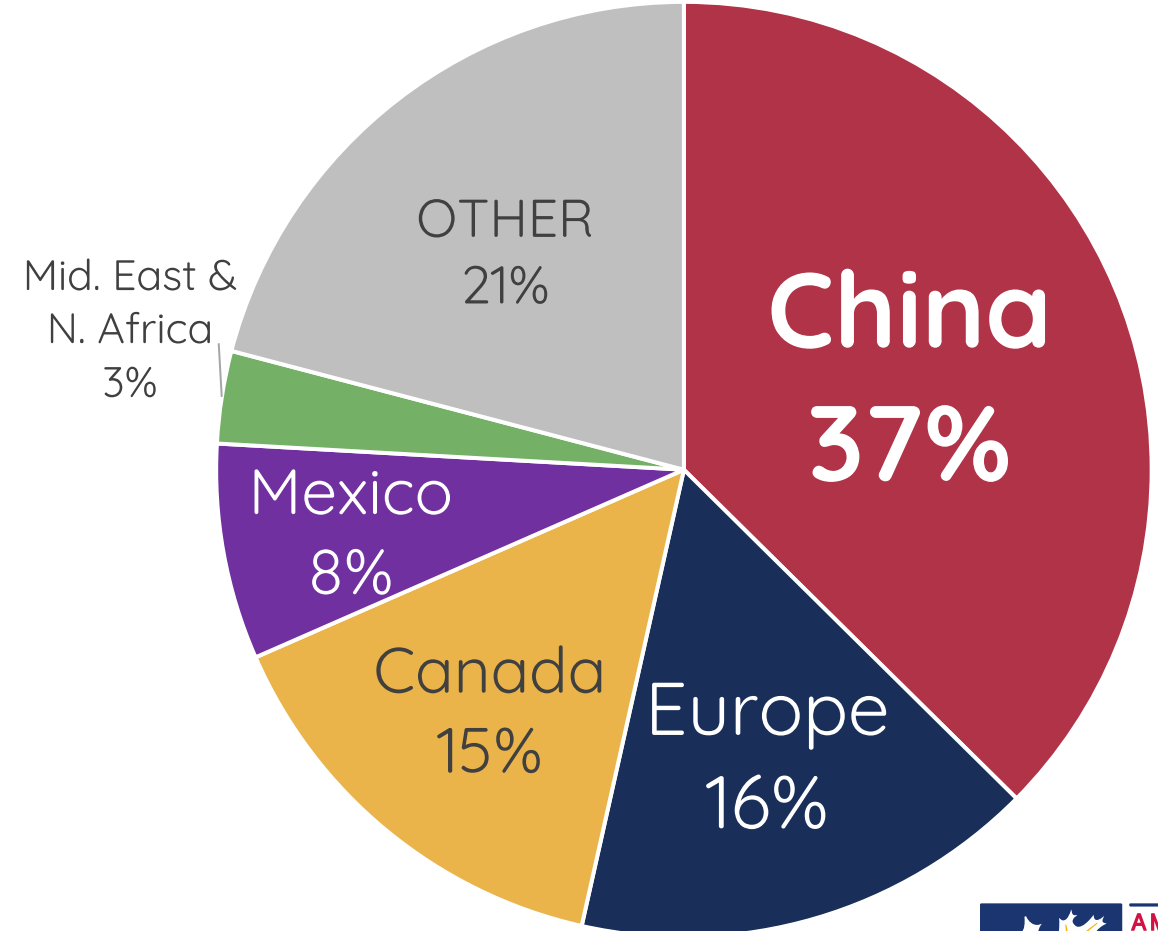
Source: USDA GATS (Jan-November each year)

Hardwood Exports Less Reliant on China

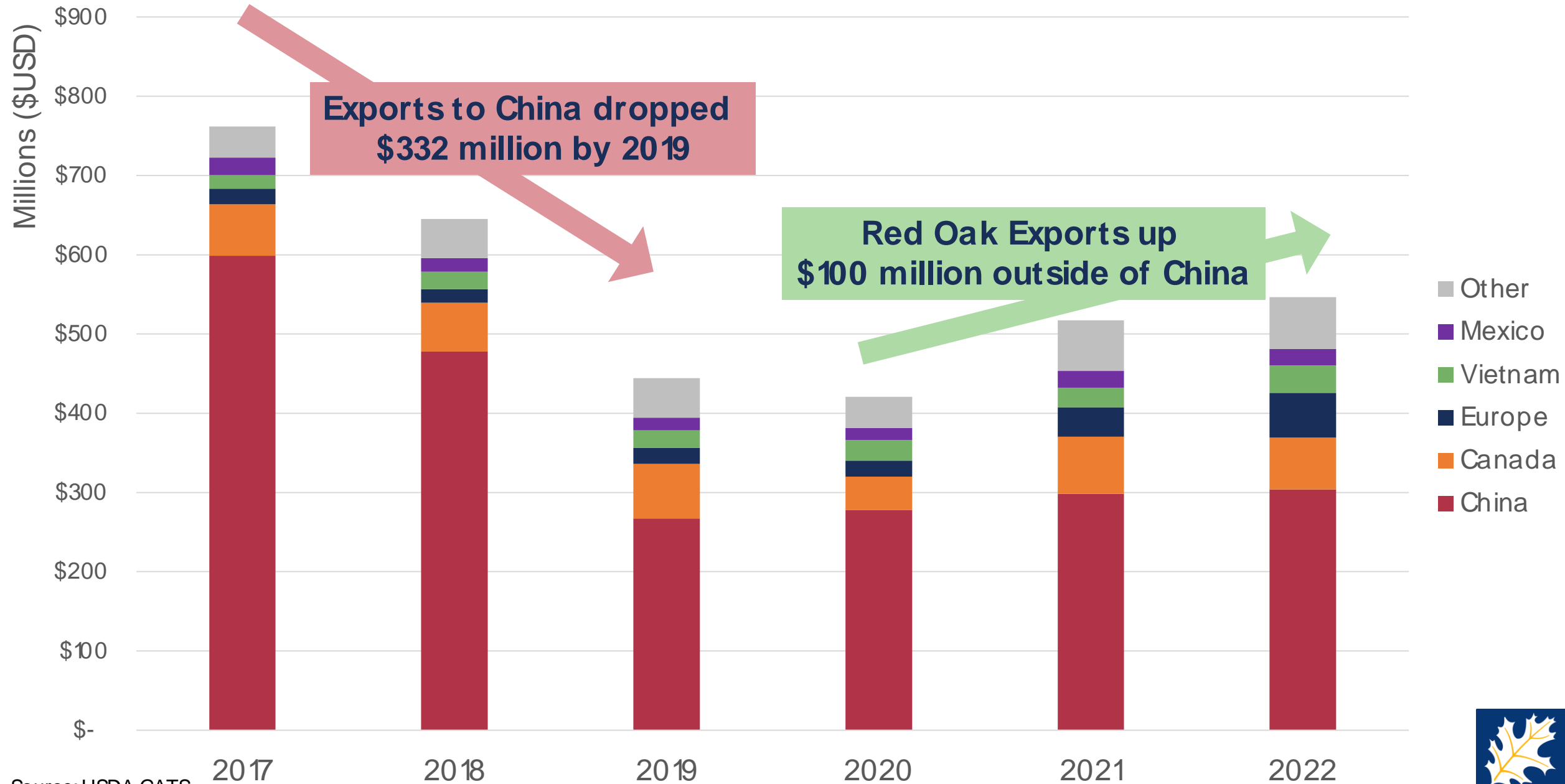
2017



2022



Red Oak Lumber Exports



Red Oak Growth Across Europe

