

## Overview of NAPPO RSPM 41

### Use of Systems Approaches to Manage Pest Risks Associated with the Movement of Forest Products

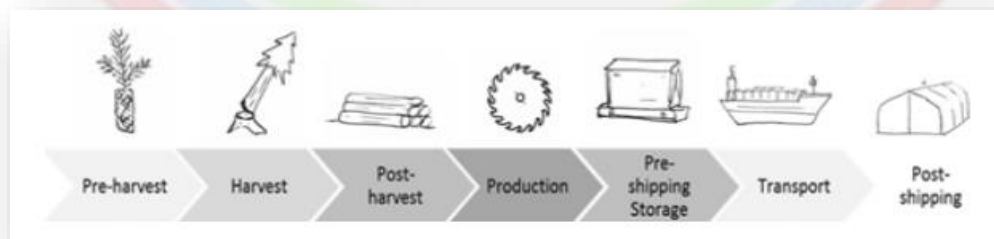
**Purpose:** The purpose of RSPM 41 is to explain how to develop and implement a systems approach to reduce the risk of forestry pests entering NAPPO member countries via international trade. A systems approach combines multiple pest-reducing measures at different stages in the forestry production chain.

**Contents:** RSPM 41 has two parts: **the body of the standard**, which outlines general requirements for developing and implementing a Forestry Products Systems Approach (FPSA), and **Appendix 1**, which provides examples of pest-reducing measures that may be used in a FPSA.



**Summary of RSPM 41:** Development and implementation of an FPSA requires an understanding of the risks that various pests pose at each stage of the forestry production chain, and a knowledge of when, where and how pest-reducing measures can be effectively applied. It also requires an understanding of the parties that need to be involved (NPPOs of importing and exporting countries, representatives from the scientific community, industry producers, processors, and shippers) and their respective roles and responsibilities in developing the FPSA, implementing its pest-reducing measures, documenting their application, and providing appropriate monitoring and oversight.

**Summary of Appendix 1:** Appendix 1 gives examples of pest risk reducing measures applied at different points in the forestry production chain that may be combined into an FPSA. **Pre-harvest measures** may include pest monitoring and good forest management practices, for example, removing unhealthy or infested trees. **Measures at harvest** may include establishment of pest free or low pest prevalence areas and timing the harvest to coincide with low pest population pressure. **Post-harvest measures** may include timely processing and protection of forest products after harvest, and using pheromones that deter insect attack. **Production measures** may include removing bark and branches, and treating forest products with heat, irradiation, fumigation, or anti-fungal dips, among others. **Pre-shipping storage measures** may include limiting storage time, shipping forest products when pests are not active and conducting a pre-shipment inspection. **Transport measures** may include protection and/or treatment of the forest products during transport and cleaning shipment containers. **Post-shipping measures** may include storage conditions that prevent pest spread and restricted use and distribution of the forest products, among others.



**Please read RSPM 41** for a more complete description of the processes for developing and implementing an FPSA, as well as a complete list of pest-reducing measures for forest products.

Photo by Doo-Hyung Lee <https://www.ars.usda.gov/oc/images/photos/mar15/d3398-1/>; diagram by Meghan Noseworthy.