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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Eastern Ontario Model Forest Celebrates the Reissuance of a Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) Certificate

Kemptville, ON, March 15, 2023 - Eastern Ontario Model Forest (EOMF) announces their success with recertifying over 74,000 hectares of community forests and private woodlots with Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) through the Eastern Ontario Model Forest's Group Certification program (FSC C018800). This marks 20 years of forest certification and sustainable forest management through the EOMF Certification Program.

"The group certificate program offers private and community forest owners an affordable, efficient and supportive pathway to achieve forest certification," says Glen Prevost, Program Coordinator, EOMF. "The EOMF family of forests include private forest owners, community forests, commercial forest owners and maple syrup producers."

Forest certification ensures the conservation of forests and the flow of benefits from the forest to local communities. Through forest certification, forest managers are recognized for their commitment to implementing active forest management, while enhancing the environmental, social and economic benefits from the forest for our community.

Executive Director of the EOMF, John Pineau, said: "I'm proud of the program and all of the achievements since the EOMF and the Ontario Woodlot Association have come together in close and formal collaboration. It is a great program built on a solid foundation by the dedicated work of those involved with the EOMF since the very beginning." He added, "The reissuance of the certificate is a testament to that strong foundation, and it will only continue to grow and strengthen."

Certification provides a framework for forest managers to achieve sustainable forest management that is internationally recognized. The EOMF Certification Program brings together a family of private woodlot owners, community forests, and commercial forests to share the costs and benefits of forest certification and achieve certification on private lands in Ontario.

To learn more about joining the Group Certification program please visit the [EOMF website](#) or contact Glen Prevost, Program Coordinator at 705-358-7913 or glen.prevost@ontariowoodlot.com.