

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 11, 2014

CONTACT: Emily Benavides

517-481-2049

Michigan Forest Products Council Endorses Governor Snyder

LANSING – Today, the Michigan Forest Products Council, the preeminent organization representing Michigan's entire forest product industry, announced their endorsement of Governor Rick Snyder in his bid for re-election.

"I am proud to have earned the support of the Forest Products Council as I seek re-election," said Governor Snyder. "With their support I look forward to continuing to collaborate to bring more and better jobs to Michigan's forest industry."

Governor Snyder is working everyday to reinvent Michigan. In the last three years, Michigan has seen more than 275,000 new private sector jobs. We are first among Great Lakes States for per-capita personal income growth, and in 2013, Michigan's annual labor force grew for the first time since 2006. Now, our unemployment rate is at its lowest point since 2008. Last year, the Governor hosted a timber summit to create a business plan to ensure the future of the forest industry and that is why the Michigan Forest Products Council is supporting Governor Rick Snyder in his bid for re-election.

In announcing the endorsement, chairman of the Michigan Forest Products Council, Ron Salisbury said, "Governor Snyder's outstanding work on the wise management of our state forests is just one example of sustainable forests' continuity now and for future generations. Moreover, he recognizes the tremendous job creation potential of this renewable, natural resource based economy and that is why we are endorsing Governor Snyder."

The total economic benefit of Michigan's forest products industry in 2014 is expected to be \$14.6 billion. The state has 19.3 million acres of forestland, including 2.5 million acres of federal National Forests and 312,500 private landowners. Additionally, Michigan's forest products industry accounts for \$51 billion in direct and indirect economic impact.

The Michigan Forest Products Council works to promote, protect and sustain a globally competitive forest products industry in Michigan. The Michigan Forest Products Council is a statewide organization representing the forest products industry, which owns millions of acres of timberland and employs over 154,000 men and women in Michigan.