



Summary of Cut-off Dates McDonald's Uses for Deforestation and Conversion

As aligned with the Accountability Framework initiative (AFi), all cut-off dates are 2020 or earlier.

AFi definitions:

Cut-off date: the date after which deforestation or conversion renders a given area or production unit non-compliant with no-deforestation or no-conversion commitments, policies, goals, targets, or other obligations.

Deforestation: loss of natural forest as a result of: (i) conversion to agriculture or other non-forest land use; (ii) conversion to a tree plantation; or (iii) severe and sustained degradation.

Conversion: loss of a natural ecosystem as a result of its replacement with agriculture or another land use, or due to a profound and sustained change in a natural ecosystem's species composition, structure, or function.

Suppliers are accountable for making sure that any direct farm linked with their facility and McDonald's supply chain complies with applicable legal requirements, including forest regulations.

As stated in the McDonald's Supplier Code of Conduct: *Suppliers' business activities shall comply with applicable laws and regulations in the countries and jurisdictions in which they operate. This Code applies to activities in the locations where suppliers' goods are produced, where any related services are performed, and where the goods enter the supply chain.*

For relevant commodities and products in scope of the European Union Deforestation Regulation, the cut-off date for deforestation is December 31, 2020 (or earlier, as indicated below).

Beef:

- Brazilian Amazon, for deforestation: October 2009
- Brazilian Cerrado, for deforestation and conversion: January 2018
- Paraguayan Chaco, for deforestation: April 2019
- Argentinian Chaco, for deforestation: April 2019
- Queensland Australia, for the removal or destruction of woody vegetation: December 2019



See additional information on our Deforestation Free Beef Procurement Policy [here](#). See information on Queensland Australia woody vegetation [here](#).

Soy for chicken feed:

- Outside of the United States and Canada, for deforestation and conversion, under the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS): June 2016 or May 2009
- Outside of the United States and Canada, for deforestation and conversion in high conservation value areas, under ProTerra: December 2008

See additional information on RTRS [here](#) and ProTerra [here](#).

Coffee:

- Honduras, Indonesia & Vietnam, under Rainforest Alliance: January 2014
- All other countries, under Rainforest Alliance: January 2014
- All other countries, under FairTrade: December 2018 or earlier
- All other countries, under the McDonald's McCafé Sustainability Improvement Platform (SIP) program: January 2018

See additional information on Rainforest Alliance [here](#). See additional information on FairTrade [here](#). Learn about the McCafé SIP program [here](#).

Palm oil:

- All countries, for “damage to primary forest or any area required to protect or enhance” High Conservation Value (HCV) areas, under the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO): November 2005
- All countries, for “damaged HCV or High Carbon Stock (HCS) forests”, under RSPO: November 2018

See additional information on the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil [here](#).

Fiber-Based Primary Guest Packaging:

- All countries, under full Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) chain of custody certification or the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC), for deforestation: December 2020 or earlier

Note: within FSC, “remedy” for social and environmental damage required on land converted between December 1994 – December 2020; or December 1994 if no “remedy” applied

Note: if under PEFC in Argentina, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, and Vietnam, the mill must provide an FSC-controlled wood claim to the converter

See additional information on FSC [here](#) and PEFC [here](#).