



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Majority of Regions in North America Show Decreasing Fiber Prices Year-Over-Year

ATHENS, GEORGIA –March 19, 2024 – U.S. and Canadian weighted wood fiber prices decreased 7% and 14% year-over-year respectively through Q1 2024 according to the *Forisk Wood Fiber Review (FWFR)*. The fiber price decreases stem from continued soft demand from pulp and paper mills, challenging macroeconomic conditions, and favorable logging conditions in some localized areas in North America.

Canadian roundwood prices fell 10%, and chip prices fell 16% year-over-year. Softwood pullog prices in British Columbia were down 3% for the quarter, and prices decreased 2% in the Maritimes. Delivered softwood chip prices were down 4% in Alberta, 23% for E. Ontario/Quebec and 18% in British Columbia for the year. “The Canadian industry is in a state of contraction, with pulp and paper divestitures and curtailments, particularly in the west,” according to Vickie Swanton, Forisk’s Western Region Representative. “The industry faces a challenging operating environment in regard to regulatory certainty in conjunction with changing weather patterns.”

U.S. roundwood and chip prices fell around 1% and 15% year-over-year, respectively. U.S. Southeast and South Central region fiber prices either increased moderately or were flat year-over-year for roundwood and chips. Prices for the Northeast softwood roundwood were up 9% year-over-year and residual chips dropped 17%. “After a tough 2023, market participants are starting the year cautiously optimistic for a better 2024. The oversupply of low cost and accessible fiber, particularly in the South, still has many investors investigating how best to use it, providing relief in some markets.” noted Stephen Wright, Product Manager for the *FWFR*. “Fiber consuming firms are still under tremendous pressure to reduce fiber costs throughout the country.”

Wood fiber costs account for over half of total pulp manufacturing cost worldwide. The *Forisk Wood Fiber Review* includes prices and market commentary for all major North American regions, providing essential data for anyone that needs to track pulpwood, wood chips, and biomass prices in the world’s largest and most dynamic wood fiber markets. The *FWFR* provides updates of softwood and hardwood prices for all major markets in North America. Prices are reported for wood delivered to consuming plants as a range and average price. Each report also updates U.S. and Canada trade statistics for lumber, logs, wood pellets, wood chips and pulp.

For more information or to subscribe to the [Forisk Wood Fiber Review](#), visit [www.forisk.com](http://www.forisk.com) or contact: Heather Clark, [hsclark@forisk.com](mailto:hsclark@forisk.com), 770.725.8447.



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