

For Immediate Release

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.

**Promoting Efficient Forest Maintenance through Collaboration  
between National Forests and Privately-owned Forests**  
Forest Maintenance Agreement Signed for the Northern Part of Miyazaki Prefecture

Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd. and Sumitomo Forestry Wood Products Co., Ltd. (President and Director: Jiro Kuramitsu; Head Office: Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo), which a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sumitomo Forestry responsible for forest management, purchase of Japanese timber and sales, announced today the September 4, 2012 signing of an agreement related to forest maintenance in the Shiiba Village area of Higashiusuki District of Miyazaki Prefecture.

Following on from the September 2009 agreement related to forest maintenance in the Itsuki area of Kumamoto Prefecture, this current agreement involving Sumitomo Forestry's company-owned forests in Kyushu will create a collaboration between national forests and privately-owned forests to enable efficient promotion of forest maintenance including the maintenance of logging road networks and the thinning of forests.

■ Details of agreement

1. Name: Agreement for promoting forest maintenance in the areas of Matsuo and Shimofukura, Shiiba Village
2. Date: September 4, 2012
3. Purpose: To promote integration of forests, and efficiently maintain them, in order to achieve recycling of natural resources and a high degree of fulfillment of the multifunctional roles of forests, toward the revitalization of forests and forestry.
4. Signatories:
  - Miyazaki Prefecture Hokubu Forest Management Department, Kyushu Regional Forest Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
  - Agriculture and Forestry Development Bureau, Higashiusuki District, Miyazaki Prefecture
  - Miyazaki Water Source Forest Maintenance Office, Center for Forestry and Agriculture Development, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute
  - Forestry & Environment Division, Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.
  - Hyuga Forestry Office, Forest Management Department, Sumitomo Forestry Wood Products Co., Ltd.

5. Regions, land areas and other elements of the agreement related to forest maintenance:

Regions: Matsuo and Shimofukura areas of Shiiba Village, Higashiusuki District, Miyazaki Prefecture

Ownership	Forest area (hectares)	Forest maintenance area (hectares)	Maintained logging road network (meters)
Miyazaki Prefecture Hokubu Forest Management Department	327.09	38	2,600
Agriculture and Forestry Development Bureau, Higashiusuki District, Miyazaki Prefecture	307.26	5	
Center for Forestry and Agriculture Development	355.00	48	2,140
Sumitomo Forestry Co., Ltd.	1,205.63	24	
Total	2,194.98	115	4,740

Signing this agreement related to forest maintenance enables the promotion of efficient forest maintenance through a government-private collaboration on forestry that includes the maintenance of a logging road network such as the opening of logging roads and other forest roads. Efficient forest maintenance, including clearing away of underbrush, pruning and thinning, will lead to revitalization of Japan's forests and cultivation of healthy forests. It will also contribute to improved carbon dioxide absorption by forests and the prevention of global warming, while enabling water source recharge and sustainable utilization of the country's forests. Going forward, Sumitomo Forestry will investigate the same type of forest maintenance agreements in other areas as well.