

# PotlatchDeltic Corp.

# Post 4Q: Climate business + real estate supplement 2024 after modest 1Q

Reiterate Rating: NEUTRAL | PO: 55.00 USD | Price: 45.66 USD

# Summary - modest 4Q and 1Q outlook, better trends later

We rate Potlatch (PCH) Neutral based on its relative valuation and catalysts versus other stocks in our coverage. PCH reported op. EPS of \$0.00 and EBITDA of \$41mn in 4Q, below our \$0.04 and ~\$50mn ests, respectively. The composition of 4Q was weaker than we had envisioned in our forecast, as real estate EBITDA was \$7mn ahead of our forecast, while Wood was \$12-13mn below. Timberlands was marginally below us (\$33mn in EBITDA vs. our \$35mn forecast). While the 4Q stepping-off point results in a lower 1Q est., heightened rural land sales in 2Q and initial carbon credit sales in 2H allow for better earnings momentum as the year progresses. Potlatch will participate at our Annual Global Ag & Materials Conference in FL, 2/28-29. Call your BofA rep.

# Key factors leading to a build in mo' later in 2024/25

Key takeaways: (a) Pricing in wood was the biggest source of negative variance – excluding the separately-reported inventory charge of \$3.6mn (we had a \$2.7mn estimate), pricing was down \$18mn from 3Q; (b) PCH is guiding 1Q EBITDA moderately below 4Q's \$41mn (Bloomberg consensus is \$51mn); (c) This forecast includes the company's expectation for positive Wood EBITDA in 1Q, despite current 1Q prices only being modestly above 4Q averages, and pricing headwinds in Timberlands. Net-net, there is some lingering earnings risk for 1Q; (d) Momentum will build starting in 2Q. Rural land sales will include the expected sale of 34k acres for \$58mn in 2Q, Timberlands will benefit from the sale of ~500k carbon credits starting in 3Q (~\$20-30/ton) and the Waldo sawmill project will lead to improved costs and 85mnbf of production when fully ramped in 2025.

# Ests move higher in '24, though slightly lower next year

Given our refinements, our estimates move from 0.58 in 2024 and 0.90 in 2025 to 0.70 and 0.85, respectively. Our new 2026 estimate is 0.90. Estimates for the current year benefit from heightened rural land and carbon credit sales. In 2025, we expect lower activity, coupled with lower levels of profitability in wood products and timber -- this leads to the slightly lower 2025 outlook. Our PO moves to 5.55 from 5.60 on our long-term sum-of-the-parts, cash flow estimates, or dividend yield forecasts.

Estimates (Dec) (US\$)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026E
EPS	4.80	0.43	0.70	0.85	0.90
GAAP EPS	4.58	0.77	0.70	0.85	0.90
EPS Change (YoY)	-22.8%	-91.0%	62.8%	21.4%	5.9%
Consensus EPS (Bloomberg)			0.80	1.44	1.60
DPS	2.72	1.80	1.80	1.80	1.80
Valuation (Dec)					
P/E	9.5x	106.2x	65.2x	53.7x	50.7x
GAAP P/E	10.0x	59.3x	65.2x	53.7x	50.7x
Dividend Yield	6.0%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%
EV / EBITDA*	7.9x	25.5x	18.5x	17.3x	16.9x
Free Cash Flow Yield*	10.1%	1.1%	3.5%	3.9%	4.0%
* For full definitions of <i>iQ</i> method <sup>SM</sup> measures, see page 6.					

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Refer to important disclosures on page 7 to 9. Analyst Certification on page 5. Price
Objective Basis/Risk on page 5.

Timestamp: 30 January 2024 06:21PM EST

## 30 January 2024

## Equity

Key Changes		
(US\$)	Previous	Current
Price Obj.	56.00	55.00
2024E Rev (m)	1,060.9	1,054.9
2025E Rev (m)	1,092.9	1,044.2
2026E Rev (m)	NA	1,046.9
2024E EPS	0.58	0.70
2025E EPS	0.90	0.85
2026E EPS	NA	0.90
2024E EBITDA (m)	220.0	234.0
2025E EBITDA (m)	255.1	250.3
2026E EBITDA (m)	NA	256.0

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## Stock Data

Price	45.66 USD
Price Objective	55.00 USD
Date Established	30-Jan-2024
Investment Opinion	B-2-7
52-Week Range	41.31 USD - 54.44 USD
Mrkt Val (mn) / Shares Out	3,636 USD / 79.6
(mn)	
Free Float	68.0%
Average Daily Value (mn)	21.88 USD
BofA Ticker / Exchange	PCH / NAS
Bloomberg / Reuters	PCH US / PCH.OQ
ROE (2024E)	2.7%
Net Dbt to Eqty (Dec-2023A)	37.0%
ESGMeter™	High

ESGMeter is not indicative of a company's future stock price performance and is not an investment recommendation or rating. ESGMeter is independent of BofA Global Research's equity investment rating, volatility risk rating, income rating, and price objective for that company. For full details, refer to "BofA ESGMeter Methodology".

# *iQprofile*<sup>™</sup> PotlatchDeltic Corp.

iQmethod <sup>SM</sup> − Bus Performance*					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Return on Capital Employed	12.7%	1.3%	2.5%	3.0%	3.2%
Return on Equity	18.5%	1.6%	2.7%	3.3%	3.7%
Operating Margin	33.6%	4.8%	10.0%	11.6%	12.1%
Free Cash Flow	369	39	126	141	146
i <b>Q</b> method <sup>™</sup> – <b>Quality of Earnings*</b>					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Cash Realization Ratio	1.3x	4.6x	4.1x	3.3x	3.2>
Asset Replacement Ratio	0.8x	1.0x	0.8x	0.7x	0.7>
Tax Rate	16.4%	NM	20.3%	20.0%	20.0%
Net Debt-to-Equity Ratio	30.4%	37.0%	37.1%	38.8%	40.3%
Interest Cover	16.3x	2.0x	3.7x	4.3x	4.5>
Income Statement Data (Dec)					
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Sales	1,331	1,024	1,055	1,044	1.047
% Change	-0.5%	-23.0%	3.0%	-1.0%	0.3%
Gross Profit	652	277	370	369	375
% Change	-10.2%	-57.5%	33.6%	-0.4%	1.6%
EBITDA	546	170	234	250	256
% Change	-12.8%	-68.9%	37.7%	7.0%	2.3%
Net Interest & Other Income	(38)	(23)	(28)	(28)	(28)
Net Income (Adjusted)	350	35	56	68	72
% Change	-17.0%	-90.0%	62.2%	20.8%	5.8%
(US\$ Millions)	2022A	2023A	2024E	2025E	2026
Net Income from Cont Operations (GAAP)	334	62	56	68	72
Depreciation & Amortization	98	121	129	129	130
Change in Working Capital	9	(26)	(5)	(5)	(5)
Deferred Taxation Charge	(5)	(8)	(4)	(4)	(4)
Other Adjustments, Net	7	10	55	38	38
Capital Expenditure	(75)	(120)	(105)	(85)	
Free Cash Flow	200				(85)
0/ <b>6</b> l	369	39	126	141	
% Change	-17.4%	-89.3%	220.6%	12.1%	146 3.3%
% Change Share / Issue Repurchase			<b>220.6%</b>	<b>12.1%</b> 0	146 3.3%
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid	<b>-17.4%</b> (55) (208)	- <b>89.3%</b> (25) (144)	<b>220.6%</b> 0 (145)	<b>12.1%</b> 0 (145)	146 3.3% 0 (145)
Share / Issue Repurchase	<b>-17.4%</b> (55)	<b>-89.3%</b> (25)	<b>220.6%</b>	<b>12.1%</b> 0	146 3.3% 0 (145)
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec)	-17.4% (55) (208) (26)	- <b>89.3%</b> (25) (144) 0	220.6% 0 (145) 0	<b>12.1%</b> 0 (145) 0	146 3.3% (145)
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions)	-17.4% (55) (208) (26)	-89.3% (25) (144) 0	220.6% 0 (145) 0	12.1% 0 (145) 0	146 3.3% (145) (2026)
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262	12.1% 0 (145) 0	146 3.3% (145 0 2026 259
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32	146 3.3% (145) (145) (2026) 2026) 259
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27 125	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125	146 3.3% (145) (145) (2026) 2026) 255 37 125
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27 125 272	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125 205	146 3.3% (145) (145) 2026l 259 37 125 137
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653	146 3.3% (145) (145) 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273	146 3.3% (145) 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176	220.6% 0 (145) 0 2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176	146 3.3% 0 (145) 0 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40 100	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176 87	220.6% 0 (145) 0  2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176 87	12.1% 0 (145) 0 2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176 87	146 3.3% 0 (145) 0 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt	-17.4% (55) (208) (26) 2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40 100 993	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176 87 858	220.6% 0 (145) 0  2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176 87 858	2025E 2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176 87 858	146 3.3% 0 (145) 0 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203 176 87 858
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt Other Non-Current Liabilities	-17.4% (55) (208) (26)  2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40 100 993 155	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176 87 858 140	220.6% 0 (145) 0  2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176 87 858 146	12.1% 0 (145) 0 (145) 0  2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176 87 858 152	146 3.3% 0 (145) 0 (145) 2026l 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203 176 87 858 158
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt Other Non-Current Liabilities Total Liabilities	-17.4% (55) (208) (26)  2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40 100 993 155 1,287	-89.3% (25) (144) 0  2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176 87 858 140 1,260	220.6% 0 (145) 0  2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176 87 858 146 1,266	12.1% 0 (145) 0 (145) 0  2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176 87 858 152 1,273	(85) 146 3.3% 0 (145) 0 2026E 259 37 125 137 2,645 3,203 176 87 858 158
Share / Issue Repurchase Cost of Dividends Paid Change in Debt  Balance Sheet Data (Dec) (US\$ Millions) Cash & Equivalents Trade Receivables Other Current Assets Property, Plant & Equipment Other Non-Current Assets Total Assets Short-Term Debt Other Current Liabilities Long-Term Debt Other Non-Current Liabilities	-17.4% (55) (208) (26)  2022A 344 23 105 318 2,761 3,551 40 100 993 155	-89.3% (25) (144) 0 2023A 230 22 125 373 2,681 3,431 176 87 858 140	220.6% 0 (145) 0  2024E 262 27 125 272 2,662 3,347 176 87 858 146	12.1% 0 (145) 0 (145) 0  2025E 258 32 125 205 2,653 3,273 176 87 858 152	2026 2026 259 37 129 137 2,649 3,203 176 85

3,551

3,431

3,347

3,273

3,203

## **Company Sector**

Paper Products

## **Company Description**

With \$1bn in 2023 sales, PotlatchDeltic is one of three publicly traded timber REITs. The company owns around 1.8mn acres of timberland in Idaho, Arkansas, Minnesota, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana. As part of its real estate segment, PCH seeks to sell certain non-strategic and higher and better use properties. PCH also has a wood products business with approximately 1.1bbf of lumber capacity.

## **Investment Rationale**

We rate PCH at Neutral balancing upside to our PO with risks that housing could moderate. That said, the company has a good financial position and its timberlands business offers relative earnings stability vs. other wood products stocks. There is also potential for additional value-return.

## **Stock Data**

Average Daily Volume

## **Quarterly Earnings Estimates**

	2023	2024
Q1	0.23A	-0.01E
Q2	0.06A	0.36E
Q3	0.14A	0.22E
Q4	0A	0.13E



479,268

**Total Equity & Liabilities** 

\* For full definitions of  $\emph{\textbf{\textit{IQ}}}\textit{method}^{\text{SM}}$  measures, see page 6.

# Model changes and other points

# **Exhibit 1: PCH Model Changes**

4Q23 EPS of \$0.00 below BofA at \$0.04

Quarterly result:	\$0.00 vs. BofA at \$0.04 and Consensus at \$0.00
Model changes:	
1Q24E	(\$0.01) vs. \$0.14 (old)
2024E	\$0.70 vs. \$0.58 (old)
2025E	\$0.85 vs. \$0.90 (old)
2026E	\$0.90 (new)
Price Objective	\$55 (was \$56)
Note: Consensus estimate per Visible Alpha.	
Source: BofA Global Research estimates.	

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**Exhibit 2: PCH Relevant Operating Statistics**Segment breakdown in Real Estate, Wood Products & Timberlands

	4Q22	4Q23A	BofA	Key highlights
Sales (\$ mn)				
Timberlands	121.9	97.4	105.6	Pricing was a headwind in both lumber and timber.
Real Estate	11.7	27.9	19.7	
Wood Products	156.8	150.1	154.5	
Intersegment Sales	(37.2)	(20.9)	(25.0)	
Net sales	\$253.2	\$254.5	\$254.8	
Adj. EBITDA (\$ mn)				
Timberlands	50.6	33.3	34.8	Timberlands adj. EBITDA below our estimates due to lower indexed sawlog prices and seasonally lower Northern harvest volumes. 1Q volumes will be down sharply y/y.
Real Estate	7.2	21.9	15.0	Results were above our forecasts due to higher average per acre pricing than our forecast in rural and development land sales.
Wood Products	2.4	(6.5)	6.2	Wood Products adj. EBITDA decreased \$8.9 million from Q4 2022 due to a decrease in the average lumber price and a larger, lower-of-cost-or-market inventory charge. Average price realizations were ~4.5% lower than our model.
Adj. EBITDA Margins				
Timberlands	41.5%	34.2%	33.0%	
Real Estate	61.5%	78.5%	76.0%	
Wood Products	1.6%	-4.3%	4.0%	
Margin %	20.6%	16.0%	21.6%	

**Source:** Company filings, BofA Global Research estimates.

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# Next up

The table below summarizes details for remaining earnings reports.



## **Exhibit 3: Upcoming earnings releases**

Review of upcoming earnings releases for Packaging & Paper/Forest

Report								Earni	ngs					Conference Call
Date	Time*	Ticker	Price	Rating**	Q-R-Q	Actual	BofA Est.	Year Ago	Street	St. Low	St. High	Date	Time (ET)	Dial-in / Passcode
1/31	BMO	AVY	\$201.69	UP	B-3-7		\$2.11	\$1.65	\$2.16	\$2.11	\$2.24	1/31	1:00 p.m.	800-768-9711
1/31	BMO	SLGN	\$43.70	В	B-1-7		\$0.56	\$0.85	\$0.58	\$0.54	\$0.63	1/31	11:00 a.m.	(888) 256-1007 / 2504193
2/1	BMO	BALL	\$56.78	UP	B-3-7		\$0.81	\$0.44	\$0.75	\$0.63	\$0.81	2/1	11:00 a.m.	877-497-9071
2/5	AMC	CCK	\$90.75	В	B-1-7		\$1.40	\$1.17	\$1.44	\$1.39	\$1.62	2/6	9:00 a.m.	(888) 324-8108 / packaging
2/6	AMC	OI	\$15.22	В	C-1-9		\$0.03	\$0.38	\$0.03	\$0.03	\$0.06	2/7		==
2/6	AMC	AMCR	\$9.60	UP	B-3-7		\$0.15	\$0.19	\$0.15	\$0.15	\$0.15	2/6	5:30 p.m.	800 715 9871 / 2761023
2/7	BMO	BERY	\$67.34	В	B-1-7		\$1.30	\$1.30	\$1.31	\$1.25	\$1.37	2/7	10:00 a.m.	
2/8	AMC	ATR	\$132.60	В	B-1-7		\$1.11	\$0.92	\$1.12	\$1.10	\$1.13	2/9	9:00 a.m.	
2/14	AMC	SON	\$58.65	В	B-1-7		\$1.08	\$1.27	\$1.08	\$1.05	\$1.12	2/15		==
2/22	BMO	AMBP	\$3.83	N	B-2-8		\$0.04	\$0.05	\$0.04	\$0.04	\$0.05	2/22	9:00 a.m.	
	AMC	PTVE	\$15.03	В	B-1-7		\$0.08	\$0.15	\$0.20	\$0.08	\$0.27			
2/27	BMO	SEE	\$36.04	В	B-1-7		\$0.58	\$0.99	\$0.63	\$0.58	\$0.74	2/27	10:00 a.m.	==
	AMC	GEF	\$64.28	N	B-2-7		\$0.68	\$1.06	\$0.65	\$0.54	\$0.72			
	BMO	BRC	\$61.32	В	B-1-7		\$0.92	\$0.81	\$0.95	\$0.92	\$0.97			

Paper/Forest - 4Q23 Earnings Calendar

**Total Packaging** 

Report								Earni	ngs					Conference Call
Date	Time	Ticker	Price	Rating**	Q-R-Q	Actual	BofA Est.	Year Ago	Street	St. Low	St. High	Date	Time (ET)	Dial-in / Passcode
1/24	AMC	PKG	\$169.86	N	B-2-7	\$2.13	\$1.83	\$2.35	\$1.82	\$1.75	\$1.94	1/25		==
1/25	AMC	WY	\$33.02	В	B-1-7	\$0.16	\$0.12	\$0.23	\$0.14	\$0.12	\$0.16	1/26		
1/29	AMC	PCH	\$45.80	N	B-2-7	(\$0.00)	\$0.04	\$0.12	(\$0.00)	(\$0.09)	\$0.04	1/30		
2/1	BMO	IP	\$36.51	UP	B-3-7		\$0.35	\$0.87	\$0.34	\$0.27	\$0.38	2/1	8:00 a.m.	844-291-5494 / 3266705
2/1	BMO	WRK	\$41.44	В	B-1-7		\$0.30	\$0.55	\$0.35	\$0.30	\$0.37			
2/14	BMO	LPX	\$67.98	UP	C-3-7		\$0.54	\$0.78	\$0.55	\$0.44	\$0.65	2/14	11:00 a.m.	
2/15	BMO	SLVM	\$48.44	В	C-1-7		\$0.81	\$2.14	\$0.84	\$0.81	\$0.86	2/15	10:00 a.m.	877-336-4440 / 763504
2/20	BMO	GPK	\$25.96	В	B-1-7		\$0.62	\$0.59	\$0.69	\$0.62	\$0.78	2/21		
	AMC	BCC	\$138.00	UP	B-3-7		\$2.37	\$2.97	\$2.55	\$2.33	\$2.92			==
Total Pan	er/Forest					\$2.29	\$6.97	\$10.60	\$7.27	\$6.55	\$8.10			

\$10.85 \$11.23 \$11.09 \$10.40 \$11.88

**Source:** Bloomberg, BofA Global Research estimates. Priced on 1/30/24.

Bloomberg estimates as of 1/30/24. GEF, WRK, BERY, AMCR and BRC upcoming quarters reflect F1Q, F1Q, F1Q, F2Q and F2Q respectively. Full-year estimates calendarized. \*Time: after market close (AMC), before market open (BMO), to be determined (TBD). \*\*Ratings: Buy (B), Neutral (N), Underperform (UP): No Rating (NR)

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# Price objective basis & risk

## PotlatchDeltic Corp. (PCH)

Our \$55 PO is based on: (a) an assumed mid-cycle dividend yield of 3% and dividend of \$1.80-2.00/share, (b) a 21-25x mid-cycle AFFO multiple, and (c) a sum-of-the-parts (SOTP) value. Our SOTP model values PCH's Resources business based on our estimates of the per acre values for its timberlands, and values its Wood Products business based on our forecast for mid-cycle EBITDA and applying a 5x EV/EBITDA multiple. Meanwhile, we value its Real Estate operations based on the average premium generated over time, and assuming properties sold are ultimately replaced with other timberlands.

Risks to our PO being achieved are: (1) Flattening yield curve, (2) Housing market weakness, which can impact PCH's Wood Products and Real Estate operations, as well as timberland profits, (3) Broader housing and economic trends, which can impact timberland and REIT valuations, including the threat of deflation, (4) Risk that synergies with CatchMark is not realized (5) Dividend trends, (6) Demand, supply chain and other risks created by the Covid-19 pandemic, (7) Regulations on tax status of REITs. Upside risks to our PO are better-than-expected improvement in the housing market and dividend trends.

While we have tried to be conservative in our modeling, certain fundamental trends could wind up worse than expected, causing further downside to the shares relative to our price objective. Similarly, PCH performance could prove better than our forecast, lifting the shares above our PO.

# **Analyst Certification**

I, George L. Staphos, hereby certify that the views expressed in this research report accurately reflect my personal views about the subject securities and issuers. I also certify that no part of my compensation was, is, or will be, directly or indirectly, related to the specific recommendations or view expressed in this research report.

**US - Paper and Packaging Coverage Cluster** 

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
BUY				
	AptarGroup Inc.	ATR	ATR US	George L. Staphos
	Berry Global	BERY	BERY US	George L. Staphos
	Brady Corp Cl A	BRC	BRC US	Cashen Keeler
	Crown Holdings Inc.	CCK	CCK US	George L. Staphos
	Graphic Packaging	GPK	GPK US	George L. Staphos
	O-I Glass Inc	OI	OIUS	George L. Staphos
	Pactiv Evergreen	PTVE	PTVE US	George L. Staphos
	Sealed Air Corp.	SEE	SEE US	George L. Staphos
	Silgan Holdings Inc.	SLGN	SLGN US	George L. Staphos
	Sonoco Products Co.	SON	SON US	George L. Staphos
	Sylvamo Corp.	SLVM	SLVM US	George L. Staphos
	WestRock	WRK	WRK US	George L. Staphos
	Weyerhaeuser Co.	WY	WY US	George L. Staphos
NEUTRAL				
	Ardagh Metal Packaging S.A.	AMBP	AMBP US	George L. Staphos
	Greif Inc.	GEF	GEF US	George L. Staphos
	Packaging Corp. of America	PKG	PKG US	George L. Staphos
	PotlatchDeltic Corp.	PCH	PCH US	George L. Staphos
UNDERPERFORM				
	Amcor Plc	AMCCF	AMC AU	George L. Staphos
	Amcor PLC	AMCR	AMCR US	George L. Staphos
	Avery Dennison Corp.	AVY	AVY US	George L. Staphos
	Ball Corp.	BALL	BALL US	George L. Staphos
	Boise Cascade Company	BCC	BCC US	George L. Staphos



## **US - Paper and Packaging Coverage Cluster**

Investment rating	Company	BofA Ticker	Bloomberg symbol	Analyst
	International Paper Co.	IP	IP US	George L. Staphos
	Louisiana-Pacific Corp.	LPX	LPX US	George L. Staphos

# **IQ**method<sup>™</sup> Measures Definitions

<b>Business Performance</b>	Numerator	Denominator
Return On Capital Employed	NOPAT = (EBIT + Interest Income) × (1 - Tax Rate) + Goodwill Amortization	Total Assets - Current Liabilities + ST Debt + Accumulated Goodwill
		Amortization
Return On Equity	Net Income	Shareholders' Equity
Operating Margin	Operating Profit	Sales
Earnings Growth	Expected 5 Year CAGR From Latest Actual	N/A
Free Cash Flow	Cash Flow From Operations — Total Capex	N/A
Quality of Earnings	Numerator	Denominator
Cash Realization Ratio	Cash Flow From Operations	Net Income
Asset Replacement Ratio	Capex	Depreciation
Tax Rate	Tax Charge	Pre-Tax Income
Net Debt-To-Equity Ratio	Net Debt = Total Debt - Cash & Equivalents	Total Equity
Interest Cover	EBIT	Interest Expense
Valuation Toolkit	Numerator	Denominator
Price / Earnings Ratio	Current Share Price	Diluted Earnings Per Share (Basis As Specified)
Price / Book Value	Current Share Price	Shareholders' Equity / Current Basic Shares
Dividend Yield	Annualised Declared Cash Dividend	Current Share Price
Free Cash Flow Yield	Cash Flow From Operations – Total Capex	Market Cap = Current Share Price × Current Basic Shares
Enterprise Value / Sales	EV = Current Share Price × Current Shares + Minority Equity + Net Debt +	Sales
	Other LT Liabilities	
EV / EBITDA	Enterprise Value	Basic EBIT + Depreciation + Amortization

Method \*\* is the set of BofA Global Research standard measures that serve to maintain global consistency under three broad headings: Business Performance, Quality of Earnings, and validations. The key features of iQmethod are: A consistently structured, detailed, and transparent methodology. Guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of the comparative valuation process, and to identify some common pitfalls.

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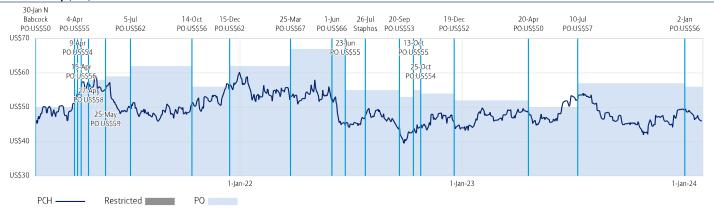
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# **Important Disclosures**

## PotlatchDeltic Corp (PCH) Price Chart



B: Buy, N: Neutral, U: Underperform, PO: Price Objective, NA: No longer valid, NR: No Rating

The Investment Opinion System is contained at the end of the report under the heading "Fundamental Equity Opinion Key". Dark grey shading indicates the security is restricted with the opinion suspended. Medium grey shading indicates the security is under review with the opinion withdrawn. Light grey shading indicates the security is not covered. Chart is current as of a date no more than one trading day prior to the date of the report.

#### Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Paper/Forest Products Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	9	45.00%	Buy	8	88.89%
Hold	2	10.00%	Hold	1	50.00%
Sell	9	45.00%	Sell	5	55.56%

## **Equity Investment Rating Distribution: Global Group (as of 31 Dec 2023)**

Coverage Universe	Count	Percent	Inv. Banking Relationships R1	Count	Percent
Buy	1895	53.62%	Buy	1083	57.15%
Hold	832	23.54%	Hold	454	54.57%
Sell	807	22.84%	Sell	383	47.46%

R1 Issuers that were investment banking clients of BofA Securities or one of its affiliates within the past 12 months. For purposes of this Investment Rating Distribution, the coverage universe includes only stocks. A stock rated Neutral is included as a Hold, and a stock rated Underperform is included as a Sell.

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# Investment rating Total return expectation (within 12-month period of date of initial rating) Ratings dispersion guidelines for coverage cluster<sup>R2</sup>

Buy	≥ 10%	≤ /0%
Neutral	≥ 0%	≤ 30%
Underperform	N/A	≥ 20%

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