THE SFI ANNUAL SURVEY IS COMPLETED ONLINE

THIS DOCUMENT CAPTURES SURVEY CONTENTS FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREPARING REPORTING DATA.



THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING THE SFI ANNUAL SURVEYS IS AUGUST 2, 2024.

This survey looks back at activities completed in 2023 as well as current and upcoming activities in 2024. The SFI Annual Survey seeks to understand the collective impact of SFI-certified organizations. It does not take the place of an audit, where an individual organization demonstrates how they meet standard requirements.

The SFI Annual Survey seeks to understand the **collective impact** of SFI-certified organizations. It does not take the place of an audit, where an individual organization demonstrates how they meet standard requirements.

Individual responses will remain strictly confidential and are only used in aggregate form.

2024 SFI ANNUAL SURVEY: FOREST MANAGEMENT

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

1.	PROFILE (MY ORGANIZATION DETAILS)	Page 2
2.	FORESTRY RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	Page 2
3.	LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE	Page 9

QUESTIONS FOR SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

4. FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING	Page 10
5. FOREST HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY	Page 13
5. PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER RESOURCES	Page 16
7. CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	Page 17
B. MANAGEMENT OF VISUAL QUALITY AND RECREATIONAL BENEFITS	Page 17
9. RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS	Page 18
10.CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY	Page 20
11.FIRE RESILIANCE AND AWARENESS	Page 24
12.FORESTS OUTSIDE USA/CANADA AND FOREST TREE BIOTECHNOLOGY	Page 25

PAGE: SIGN-OFF & SUBMIT Page 26



1. MY ORGANIZATION'S PROFILE

- **1.1** Select the default area unit (acres or hectares) you will use for this survey, if applicable: acres/hectares
- 1.2 Select the default currency (USD or CAD) you will use for this survey: USD/CAD
- **1.3** Select relevant questions for your organization:

Sections of the SFI Annual Survey are enabled/disabled dependant on your answer to the following questions. Please answer all SFI Annual Survey questions for all of your forestland and manufacturing facilities, as relevant.

Does your organization own and/or manage forestlands? Yes/No

If yes, Select the region(s) where your organization owns and/or manages forestlands in:

- United States
- Canada
- Other

Does your organization have primary manufacturing operations/mills/log yards? Yes/No

If yes, Select the region(s) where your organization has primary manufacturing operations/mills/log yards:

- United States
- Canada
- Other

If yes, Select the region(s) your organization sources raw material forest content from:

- United States
- Canada
- Other

1.4	Select all countries in which you sell products:	
-----	--	--

2. FORESTRY RESEARCH, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

FOREST MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE 12. AND FIBER SOURCING OBJECTIVE 5. Forestry Research, Science and Technology. To invest in research, science, and technology, upon which sustainable forest management decisions are based.

FOREST MANAGEMENT PM 12.1 / FIBER SOURCING 5.1. Certified Organizations shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, associations or other partners provide in-kind support or funding for forest research to improve sustainable management of forest resources, and the environmental benefits and performance of forest products.



Indicators:

- 1. Financial or in-kind support of research, collaboratives, or knowledge transfer to address key themes of relevance in the region of operations as identified by Certified Organizations, local stakeholders, communities and/or Indigenous Peoples. Examples could include, but are not limited to, the following topics:
- a. climate change adaptation and mitigation;
 - b. water quality and quantity;
 - c. biodiversity, forests with exceptional conservation value, and species maintenance and recovery;
 - d. landscape ecology;
 - e. Indigenous traditional forest-related knowledge;
 - f. ecosystem services or non-timber forest products;
 - g. community engagement;
 - h. forest health and productivity;
 - i. support for Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA);
 - j. SFI sponsored conservation research;
 - k. the role of forests in the bioeconomy, and
 - I. or similar themes which build broader understanding of the benefits and effects of sustainable forest management or sustainable supply chains.
- 2. Ensure that knowledge gained through research is shared, to the extent possible, to positively influence sustainable forest management.

ullet EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

- Since 1995, SFI-certified companies have directly invested more than \$2 billion in forest research.
- More than 650 unique partner organizations, from Conservation, Academic, Research, Government, Community, and other sectors, worked with SFI-certified organizations in 2022 to meet the SFI Standard research requirement.
- \$83 MILLION in forest research expenditures were reported by SFI-certified organizations in 2022
- 750 different conservation, community, education & research projects reported by SFI-certified organizations in 2022 with 800 unique partner organizations in multiple sectors (17% Government, 17% Conservation, 13% Academic, 10% Community, 11% Research, 16% Other)
- 80% of research funding is linked to conservation-related objectives

♦ WHY IT MATTERS:

Forest research leads to an improved understanding of the science and practices that can maintain and increase forest health in a rapidly changing environment.

2.1 We met the SFI research objective in 2023 at least in part through our participation in an SFI grant

Enter the following information for an additive table. Multiple entries possible

- o No
- Yes (select from existing list of SFI Grants)
 - In Kind Funding/External Funding & amount to meet SFI Forestry Research, Science & Technology Objective



2.2 We met the SFI research objective in 2023 at least in part through direct research funding

Enter the following information for an additive table. *Multiple entries possible*

- Key research themes alignment (select all that apply)
 - Climate change adaptation and mitigation
 - Water quality & quantity
 - Biodiversity, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and species maintenance and recovery (i.e.) Collaboration with Natural Heritage programs) Programs and Conservation Data Centres
 - Landscape ecology
 - Indigenous traditional forest-related knowledge
 - Ecosystem services or non-timber forest products
 - Community engagement
 - Forest health and productivity (including fire management)
 - Support for national or subnational forest inventory analysis (FIA),
 - SFI sponsored conservation research
 - Forest bioeconomy
 - Similar themes which build broader understanding of the benefits and effects of sustainable forest management or sustainable supply chains
- Total funding amount by key theme
 - o In Kind Internal Funding/External Funding & amount
- o Partners by category and organization name
 - Academic Organizations
 - Research Organizations
 - Conservation Organizations
 - Government Organizations
 - Community Organizations
 - SFI Implementation Committees
 - Indigenous Communities
 - SFI-Certified Organizations
 - Associations
 - Consultants
 - o Retailer/Consumer-facing Companies
 - Other Forest Products Companies
 - o Clubs
 - Foundations
 - Other Organizations: [text entry]



2.3 We met the SFI research objective in 2023 through one or more projects or collaborations

Enter the following information for each project. *Multiple entries possible* PROJECT NAME

- Project Objective
- Short project description
- Key Research themes alignment (select all that apply)
 - o Climate change adaptation and mitigation

If yes, select relevant subthemes:

- Adaptation
- Mitigation
- Resiliency
- Fire-related
- Emissions
- Carbon initiatives
- Other
- Water quality & quantity

If yes, select relevant subthemes:

- Aquatic habitat
- Monitoring
- Water Quality (i.e. temperature, pH, sedimentation)
- Water Quantity (i.e. flow, yield)
- Restoration
- Wetlands
- Aquatic barriers/buffers
- Best Management Practices
- Water Crossings
- Classification/Mapping
- Assessments
- Ground Water
- Other
- Biodiversity, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and species maintenance and recovery

If yes, select relevant subthemes:

- Predator/prey interactions and/or relationships
- Areas of Ecological or Cultural Concern/Significance
- Ecosystem/Community
- Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value
- Species Monitoring
- Species Management
- Habitat Recovery/Management
- Habitat Assessment
- Fire-related habitats and species
- Old growth forests

And also show Species list if Biodiversity is selected

Mammals



- Birds
- Fish
- Amphibians
- Reptiles
- Invertebrates (i.e. insects, spiders, mollusks, worms)
- Aquatic invertebrates (i.e., mussels, crayfish)
- Algae, moss
- Fungi (i.e. mushrooms, mold)
- Trees
- Vegetation (i.e. ferns, flowers, grasses, shrubs)
- Bacteria
- Species at Risk
- Invasive Species/Pests
- Multi-species
- Other
- Landscape ecology
- Indigenous traditional forest-related knowledge
- o Ecosystem services or non-timber forest products
- Community engagement
- Forest health and productivity

If yes, select relevant subthemes:

- Silviculture
- Genetics
- Soil
- Growth and Yield/Survival
- Disease/Pathogen management
- Reforestation (i.e. Natural, Artificial)
- Fire-related
- Stand Improvement
- Nurseries
- Tools/Technology (i.e. LiDAR)
- Support for forest inventory analysis (FIA)
- SFI sponsored conservation research
- o The role of forests in the bioeconomy
- Similar themes which build broader understanding of the benefits and effects of sustainable forest management or sustainable supply chains
- Partners (category and type name)
 - Academic Organizations
 - Research Organizations
 - Conservation Organizations
 - Government Organizations
 - Community Organizations
 - Other Organizations
 - SFI Implementation Committees
 - o Indigenous Communities
 - SFI-Certified Organizations
 - Associations
 - Consultants



- Retailer/Consumer-facing Companies
- Other Forest Products Companies
- Clubs
- Foundations
- Start and end year
- o Still active in 2023? Y/N
- o State/Province?
- Contribution
 - In Kind Funding/External Funding & amount to meet SFI Forestry Research, Science & Technology Objective
- May SFI use this project as an example in communications, to help convey the exemplary work of SFI-Certified Organizations in the areas of conservation, education and community engagement?
 - o Share- with our organization's name
 - Share- don't use our organization's name
 - o Only use in aggregate

In order to build evidence for the value of sustainability and forest certification, SFI is collecting peer reviewed and gray (other) literature from SFI-certified organizations related to key sustainability issues.

2.4 Please share any papers you have published in the last 10 years with knowledge gained through research to positively influence sustainable forest management. (Excepting any previously submitted to SFI).

0	No, we don't have any research papers to share
0	Yes (please upload or provide URL):

Multiple entries possible



2.5 Do you have other projects and collaborations that you want to share with SFI, to help illustrate the extent to which you collaborate to demonstrate the benefits that forests provide such as recreation, habitat provision, and other related outreach and engagement in your network?

Examples of other projects and collaborations include market engagement, community outreach, public engagement, education, etc.)

Enter the following information for an additive table.

- Project name
- Project objective
- Type of project/collaboration/outreach
 - Market engagement
 - Community outreach
 - Public engagement
 - o Indigenous engagement
 - Youth Education and Forest Literacy
 - Training on best practices and sustainable forest management (adult audiences)
 - o Reaching underserved communities
 - o communicating about ecosystem services, recreation, habitat provisioning, and other related outreach and engagement.
 - Other: please describe
- Short project description
- Partners (category and type name)
 - Academic Organizations
 - Research Organizations
 - Conservation Organizations
 - Government Organizations
 - Community Organizations
 - Other Organizations
 - SFI Implementation Committees
 - Indigenous Communities
 - SFI-Certified Organizations
 - Associations
 - Consultants
 - Retailer/Consumer-facing Companies
 - Other Forest Products Companies
 - Clubs
 - Foundations
- Start and end year
- Still active in 2023? Y/N
- o State/Province?

Multiple entries possible



3. LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

FOREST MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE 11. AND FIBER SOURCING OBJECTIVE 4. LEGAL AND REGULATORY COMPLIANCE:

Performance Measure 11.2 & 4.2. SFI-certified organizations shall take appropriate steps to comply with all applicable social laws at the federal, provincial, state, and local levels in the country where the SFI certified organization operates.

Indicator: 1. Written policy demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, gender equality, diversity inclusion, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation, Indigenous Peoples' rights, workers' and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

SFI-certified organizations have policies that explicitly supports gender equality/ diversity inclusion/etc.

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

Compliance with all laws and regulations ensures environmental and social values are protected in forests affected by your certification. This question will show trends over time.

The SFI 2022 SFI Forest Management and Fiber Sourcing Standards require Certified Organizations to develop and implement a written policy demonstrating commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, gender equality, diversity inclusion, anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures, workers' compensation, Indigenous Peoples' rights, workers', and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.

sarety	\prime .
3.	1 Which social laws are explicitly referenced in your written policy as per Performance
M	easure 11.2 (Forest Management) and 4.2 (Fiber Sourcing)?
(chec	k all that apply)
	Civil rights
	Equal employment opportunities
	Gender equality
	Diversity inclusion
	Anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures
	Workers' compensation
	Indigenous Peoples' rights
	Workers' and communities' right to know
	Prevailing wages
	Workers' right to organize
	Occupational health and safety
	Don't know



4. FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 1. Forest Management Planning

To ensure forest management plans include long-term sustainable harvest levels and measures to avoid forest conversion or afforestation of ecologically important areas.

Performance Measure 1.1. Certified Organizations shall ensure that forest management plans include long-term harvest levels that are sustainable and consistent with appropriate growth-and-yield models.

Performance Measure 5.2. Certified Organizations shall manage the size, shape, and placement of clearcut regeneration harvests.

ullet EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

The aggregate data is used to develop content for SFI annual progress reports and provide important data to demonstrate the impact of SFI-certified organizations in forest regeneration in Canada & the USA.

- SFI-certified organizations are required to reforest after harvest (FM Standard Statement)
- Less than one percent of forests certified to the SFI Standard were harvested in 2022

↓ WHY IT MATTERS:

This standard requirement ensures that we grow more trees than we harvest, that the forest contributes to larger sustainability goals, and that tree planting activities generate positive ecological outcomes, quaranteeing that forests will last for future generations.

HARVEST

(Answer separately for USA or CANADA –certified Forestland covered under the scope of your SFI certificate)

How many acres/hectares of harvest units were completed last year by:

- **4.1 Final harvest area**: What is the total harvested area completed last year that would qualify as final harvest (the removal of the remaining trees in a stand. It is anticipated that the time between final harvests on a given unit would typically correspond to the planned rotation age of the harvested area). **[ENTER AREA]**
- **4.2 Intermediate harvest**¹ What is the total area harvested last year that would qualify as intermediate harvest [Select type and enter total area]

Selection Methods ²	(if selected, enter area)
--------------------------------	---------------------------

¹¹ any treatment or tending designed to enhance growth, quality, vigor, and composition of the stand after establishment or regeneration and prior to final harvest

² Regeneration cuttings made under uneven-aged silvicultural systems SFI ANNUAL SURVEY FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT



□ S	anitatio	n Salvage	'(if sele	cted, ente	=	I ('C -	aladad aabaa aasa
	 Other harvest units not classified as final harvest (if selected, enter area) 						
	_	arcut Are ture syster			verage are	a of final h	arvest that were clear-cut (i. e.
If the average is greater than 50 hectares or 120 acres, check all that apply and provide an explanation for each: Government regulations requiring larger harvest areas (please explain): Response to natural disaster Disease or Insects (please explain), Fire salvage (please explain), Hurricane (please explain), Cother (please explain), Other (please explain) Please fill in the box below documenting the number and size distribution of clearcuts (OPTIONAL):							
acres							
150+							
121-150							
101-120							
51-100 0-50							
number	0-10	11 to 20	21-30	31-40	41-50	50+	

CONVERSION OF FOREST COVER TYPES

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE:

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Performance Measure 1.2. *Certified Organizations shall not convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type unless an assessment has been conducted to determine ecological impacts and provide appropriate justification. Indicators:*

- 1. Certified Organizations shall not convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type, unless the conversion:
 - a. does not convert native forest cover types that are rare, ecologically important, or that put any native forest cover types at risk of becoming rare; and

³ A cultural treatment made to reduce stand density of trees primarily to improve growth, enhance forest health, or recover potential mortality

⁴ the removal of trees to improve stand health by stopping or reducing the actual or anticipated spread of insects and disease SELANNUAL SURVEY FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT 11



- does not create significant adverse impacts on Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old growth forests, forest critical to threatened and endangered species, or special sites or ecologically important non-forest eco-systems; and
- c. includes objectives for long-term outcomes that support maintaining native forest cover types and ecological function; and
- d. is in compliance with relevant national and regional policy and legislation related to land use and forest management.

ullet EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

It helps SFI to understand the positive or negative impact of SFI's requirements on forest conversion.

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

The SFI Forest Management Standard has performance measures related to conversion of forest cover types. Conservation of native forest cover types is a cornerstone of sustainable forestry. In addition, these are important topics for brand owners and the conservation community, who are seeking to reduce risks associated with conversion of forest cover types.

4.4 Please select the following areas that have been identified on your land:
(multiple choice, select all)
rare, ecologically important, non-native species that are becoming rareFECV
☐ Old growth forests
☐ forest critical to threatened and endangered species,
 special sites or ecologically important non-forest ecosystems
☐ Easement(s)
Please describe, in a sentence or two, the forest cover types from the selections above. (e.g., long leaf pine, old growth) note.
4.5 Did you convert one forest cover type to another forest cover type as defined by Indicator 1.2.1? If yes, select all that apply to the reasons for the conversion and add area by state/prov:
☐ Restoration of historic forest cover
 Converting riparian areas back to historic forest cover (i.e. converting back to hardwoods within riparian areas)
Native forest types
• Other
☐ Site productivity and forest health reasons
Invasive Species
Tree Diseases
Soil Health (Pathogens)
• Insects
Other (please specify) Militaria process of the second state
☐ Mitigating present or future environmental harm ☐ Ecological impacts of conversion of forest cover types at the landscape scale
Ecological impacts of conversion of forest cover types at the landscape scale. Other (places cyclain)
☐ Other (please explain)





5. FOREST HEALTH AND PRODUCTIVITY

REFORESTATION

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE:

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 2. Forest Health and Productivity

To ensure long-term forest productivity and conservation of forest resources through prompt reforestation, afforestation, deploying integrated pest management strategies, minimized chemical use, soil conservation, and protecting forests from damaging agents.

Performance Measure 2.1. Certified Organizations shall promptly reforest after final harvest.

ψ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

- The aggregate data is used to develop SFI annual progress reports and provide important data to demonstrate the impact of SFI-certified organizations toward forest regeneration in Canada & the USA.
 - SFI-certified organizations are required to reforest after harvest (FM Standard Statement)
 - 1 Billion Trees were planted by SFI-certified Organizations in 2022
 - Less than one percent of forests certified to the SFI Standard were harvested in 2022
 - The SFI network is making a difference on the ground every day because trees are the most powerful
 nature based solution to combat the impacts of climate change. SFI Certified sustainable forest
 management requires responsible harvest levels and prompt regeneration, which keeps forests
 resilient, healthy, and thriving. SFI is a signatory to the U.S. chapter of 1t.org, part of the World
 Economic Forum's work to conserve, restore, and grow one trillion trees by 2030.

↓ WHY IT MATTERS:

Ensures that forests remain healthy and resilient which will result in better outcomes across the range of forest values, including providing a reliable and renewable source of sustainably managed fiber for consumer products.

(Answer separately for USA & CANADA –certified Forestland covered under the scope of your SFI certificate)

Activities and five-year assessment for reforestation activities for certified forest areas.

Note on the "Reforestation Clock":

For even-aged silviculture, the regeneration "clock" starts after the entire harvest unit is harvested or the planned harvest unit sale has been completed (see guidance under completed harvest units above). Do not include areas that were replanted due to poor seedling survival.

Please report on the area successfully established as of the 5-year point following conclusion of harvest as defined herein.



5.1 What PERCENTAGE of area (acres or hectares) reported as final harvest experience adequate regeneration (natural, planted and direct seeding) within the		
five-year window? (enter total percentage	regenerated)%	
• • • • •	epresents the following total AREA window? (enter total area in acres or hectares):	
		
Reforestation Data for [USA and CANADA colle	cted separately]	
<u>-</u>	• • •	
TOTAL REFORESTATION IN 2023 – (USA and/o Note that your area units (Acres/Hectares) are selected.		
o	seed for this survey in the profile seedion,	
	Enter area for each category	
5.2 Total Area Planted in 2023		
5.3 Total Area with Direct Seeding in 2023		
5.4 Total Area left for Natural Regeneration		
in 2023 (include area of overstory removal		
to promote natural regeneration).		

MINIMIZED CHEMICAL USE

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE:

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Performance Measure 2.2. *Certified Organizations shall have a program to minimize chemical use required to achieve management objectives while protecting employees, neighbors, the public and the environment, including wildlife and aquatic habitats.*

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

Minimizing chemical use is the best way to minimize potential hazards from chemicals in forests. It's important for SFI to demonstrate that Certified Organizations are limiting chemical use to exceptional circumstances.

\downarrow WHY IT MATTERS:

The SFI Forest Management Standard has performance measures related to chemical use. Minimizing chemical use is one important strategy to ensure long-term forest health and productivity, and conservation of forest resources. In addition, these are important topics for brand owners and the conservation community, who seek to reduce the risks associated with chemical use in forests.

	Do you use a WHO 1A or 1B ⁵pesticide in your operations? No
alt	ease provide the name of the pesticide used and the rationale for why no other viable ternative was available: you continue to use it? No Yes, Please Explain:

⁵ Linked to WHO 1A and 1B pesticides list: https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/332193/9789240005662-eng.pdf?ua=1
SELANNUAL SURVEY FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT

15



Do you have plans to stop using it? Yes No , Please Explain: ______

5.6 Do you use chemicals to achieve forest management objectives? Yes/No

If yes, why do you use them (provide detail and specify state/prov)

- suppression of competing herbaceous species at time of reforestation.
- suppression of competing herbaceous species to ensure successful stand establishment.
- release of the target species to assist meeting "free to grow" targets.
- Control of insects (e.g. pheromones for mountain pine beetle trapping, stumping spraying for Pales' weevil).
- · Other (please specify)

SOIL PRODUCTIVITY & SOIL HEALTH

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: *Performance Measure 2.3.* Certified Organizations shall implement practices that protect and maintain forest and soil productivity and soil health.

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

SFI-certified Organizations have practices to protect soil health.

↓ WHY IT MATTERS:

Soil health is essential to forest productivity and ecosystem function. Healthy soils support many ecological functions including tree and plant growth, nutrient cycling, control of forest and plant pests, and the regulation of water and air resources. A new indicator in the SFI Forest Management standard (Indicator 2.3.5) requires the use of practices that protect and maintain soil health in addition to soil productivity. To assist certified organizations with implementing these practices new guidance was developed.

5.8 What practices has your organization implemented that protect and maint	ain soil	
please explain.		
5.7 Does your organization collect data on soil health and/or productivity? YES	/NO If yes	,

5.8 What practices has your organization implemented that protect and maintain soil productivity and soil health?

(select all that apply):

Use of low pressure equipment on sensitive soil sites
Seasonal harvesting on sensitive soil sites
Designated equipment trails to reduce soil compaction
Use of logging slash on equipment trails
Use of erosion control techniques for harvest units on steeper slopes (e.g. water bars on
equipment trails; skidding parallel to contours)

□ Others (please describe)

SELANNUAL SURVEY FOR FOREST MANAGEMENT



6. PROTECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER RESOURCES

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: *Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources*

To protect the water quality and water quantity of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and other water bodies.

Performance Measure 3.1. Certified Organizations shall meet or exceed all applicable federal, provincial, state and local water quality laws and meet or exceed best management practices. Indicator: 1. Program to implement federal, state, or provincial water quality best management practices during all phases of management activities.

Performance Measure 3.2. Certified Organizations shall implement water, wetland, and riparian protection programs based on climate, soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state best management practices (BMPs), provincial guidelines and other applicable factors. Indicator: 1. Program addressing management and protection of water quality of rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, other water bodies and riparian areas during all phases of management.

↓ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

SFI-certified Organizations have practices to protect water quality and quantity.

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

Protecting water quality and quantity is a fundamental principle of sustainable forestry. This management practice helps provide safe and abundant water for downstream communities and freshwater ecological systems.

WATER QUALITY

6.1 Our organization has a program that meets or exceeds all applicable federal, provincial
state and local water quality laws and meets or exceeds best management practices during
all phases of management activities as per PM 3.1 (check all that apply):

- Planned temporary shut-downs (free text option),
- Alternative harvesting plans and sites (free text option),
- □ Others (please describe)

6.2 Does your organization collect data on water quality (e.g. temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, nitrogen, phosphorus, total suspended solids)? YES/NO IF YES, what data does your organization collect? [Text box response]

WATER QUANTITY

6.3 Our organization has implemented water, wetland, and riparian protection programs based on climate, soil type, terrain, vegetation, ecological function, harvesting system, state best management practices (BMPs), provincial guidelines and other applicable factors to protect water quantity within the area of our SFI certificate as per PM 3.2. (check all that apply):



Within watersheds monitoring clear-cut area as a percentage of the total area (free text option)
Increased riparian management areas near hydrologically active (or sensitive) areas (free text
option),

Establishment of machine-free zones (free text option),

□ Others (please describe)

6.4 Does your organization collect data on water quantity within your managed forests (e.g., data from gauging stations such as water flow rates/discharge rates, depth, and seasonal high and low flows)? (OPTIONAL) YES/NO IF YES, what data does your organization collect?

• Text box response:

7. CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 4. Conservation of Biological DiversityTo maintain or advance the conservation of biological diversity at the stand- and landscape-level and across a diversity of forest and vegetation cover types and successional stages including the conservation of forest plants and animals, aquatic species, threatened and endangered species, Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, old-growth forests, and ecologically important sites.

↓ WHY IT MATTERS

Ensures that forests are managed to protect wildlife habitat and conserve biological diversity, which are increasingly important to meet materiality expectations relative to Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) criteria, in addition to sustainability expectations of customers and the public.

SFI has been working since 2016 to identify significant conservation outcomes on SFI certified lands, including quantifying biodiversity attributes of SFI certification at species, ecosystem, and landscape scales. An important step in this process will now include the acquisition of shapefiles to enable SFI, to work with partners such as NatureServe and NCASI to develop quantitative analyses of the conservation contributions made by SFI COs. The results of this effort can also help participating COs with characterizing the biodiversity values across their land holdings.

SFI has acquired approximately 70% of U.S. shape files and will continue to reach out to Forest Management certified organizations throughout 2024 to seek your involvement in this project. This information will only be utilized in aggregated fashion and will protect the proprietary interests of SFI-certified organizations.

8. MANAGEMENT OF VISUAL QUALITY AND RECREATIONAL BENEFITS

AREA AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR RECREATION



↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 5. Management of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits

To manage the visual impact of forest operations and provide recreational opportunities for the public.

Performance Measure 5.4. *Certified Organizations shall support and promote recreational opportunities for the public.*

\downarrow EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

The aggregate data is used to develop content for SFI annual progress reports and provide important data to demonstrate that SFI-certified working and sustainable forests provide amazing recreational access and opportunities.

In 2022, 99% of the 354 million acres/143 million hectares certified to the SFI Standard are available to the public for outdoor recreation.

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

There is a growing emphasis on expanding access to nature for all communities in both Canada and the USA. Understanding the amount of SFI Certified forestland available for public recreation helps to build the case that working and sustainably managed forests are also valuable and widely available for recreational opportunities.

8.1 Please complete the table with total portion of area open to the public for recreation - fee-based or not.

- % of certified forest area open to the public for recreation
- are the areas which are open to recreation on your lands fee based, or not fee based?

9. RECOGNIZE AND RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 8. Recognize and Respect Indigenous Peoples' Rights

To recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge.

Performance Measure 8.1 Certified Organizations shall recognize and respect Indigenous Peoples' rights.

Indicators:

1. Certified Organizations shall develop and implement a written policy acknowledging a commitment to recognize and respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples. This policy shall provide reference to a program that includes:



c. Appropriate training of personnel and contractors so that the Certified Organization is competent to fulfill their responsibilities under Objective 8 of the Forest Management Standard.

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

34,000 People in SFI-Certified Organizations were trained in recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

♦ WHY IT MATTERS:

Recognizing and respecting the Indigenous Peoples' rights supports relationship building, costewardship of forest resources, and shared benefits from sustainably managed forests.

There are no federally-recognized tribes in our state (skip to next section).

9.1 Specific to 8.1.1.c, how many total personnel and contractors have received training to fulfill their responsibilities under Objective 8? [ADD TOTAL #]

- Of this total, how many of these personnel and contractors received (or will receive) this training in 2024?
- Of this total, what percentage does this represent of all personnel with responsibilities to implement Objective 8?
- Of this total, what percentage does this represent of all contractors working with your organization with responsibilities to implement Objective 8?

9.2 Please provide more details about your training program:

- Please provide the titles of personnel and contractors with responsibilities to implement Objective 8 who receive training specific to 8.1.1.c.
- Are Indigenous rights-holders involved in the development and/or delivery of training?
- Is training specific to 8.1.1.c tailored to your organization's different geographic locations, to reflect their unique operating circumstances?
- Is training specific to 8.1.1.c tailored to different roles within your organization to reflect individuals' unique responsibilities with respect to implementing Objective 8?
- In what format do you conduct your training? (select all that apply: online, in-person, other:
- At what frequency do you provide training specific to 8.1.1.c? [select all that apply: quarterly, annually, every other year, as needed/impromptu
- What is the average length of training? [1- 2 hrs, half day, 1 day, 2 days, 3-4 days, other:

COLLABORATING WITH SFI ON INDIGENOUS RELATIONS

As an independent, non-profit sustainability organization, SFI is committed to building and promoting forest-focused collaborations rooted in recognition and respect for Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge. We firmly believe that inclusive, collaborative approaches to policy, program and relationship development lead to real progress on the ground and a positive difference in people's lives. You can read SFI'S INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITMENT: ADVANCING RESPECTFUL FOREST-FOCUSED COLLABORATION on the SFI website.



We are interested in how you are working with indigenous communities. **This is an optional question.**

9.3 Would you be interested in collaborating with SFI to develop case studies and/or communications materials that highlight some of your positive initiatives with respect to Indigenous Relations and Objective 8? (OPTIONAL) [Yes/No]

If yes, who would be the most appropriate point of contact within your organization? [open text]

10. CLIMATE SMART FORESTRY

Certified organizations will be required to report annually to SFI on progress toward achieving climate change strategies and plans (Indicator 9.1.4) and measures to mitigate climate change associated with forest operations (Indicator 9.2.4).

Guidance was developed to assist certified organizations in identifying options for addressing stored carbon and greenhouse gas emissions. Importantly, the Objective points to existing elements of the SFI Forest Management Standard that contribute favorably to the certified organization's adaptation plan as well as those that contribute to opportunities to mitigate climate change drivers associated with forest operations.

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 9: Climate Smart Forestry

To ensure forest management activities address climate change adaptation and mitigation measures.

Performance Measure 9.1 Certified Organizations shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees or other partners identify and address the climate change risks to forests and forest operations and develop appropriate adaptation objectives and strategies. Strategies are based on best scientific information.

Indicators:

- 1. Based on best scientific information, Certified Organizations shall identify climate change risks and prioritize them based on the likelihood, nature, severity of their expected impact to their forest lands or forest tenures.
- Certified Organizations shall develop an adaptation plan to address priority climate change risks, via effective implementation of the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard requirements for potential adaptive management including:
 - a. periodic updates of forest inventory and recalculation of planned harvests as appropriate to account for changes in growth due to productivity increases or decreases, including improved data, long-term drought, fertilization, climate change, or
 - b. access to growth and yield modeling capabilities;
 - c. documented harvest trends within long-term sustainable levels identified in the forest management plan, and
 - d. appropriate research, testing, evaluation, and deployment of improved planting stock, including varietal seedlings.
- 3. Certified Organizations shall document how their adaptation plan objectives and strategies fit within broader regional climate adaptation strategies and plans, where they exist.



4. Certified Organizations shall report annually to SFI Inc. their progress towards achieving climate change adaptation strategies and plans.

Performance Measure 9.2 Certified Organizations shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees or other partners identify and address opportunities to mitigate the effects associated with its forest operations on climate change. Indicators:

- 1. Based on best scientific information, Certified Organizations shall identify and address opportunities to enhance the climate benefits associated with forest management operations on the forests they own or manage via effective implementation of the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard requirements such as: a. Objective 2 Forest Health and Productivity; Objective 10 Fire Resilience and Awareness; and/or other silvicultural or operational practices to enhance the climate benefits associated with the forest operations.
- 2. Based on best scientific information, Certified Organizations shall identify and address opportunities to enhance ecosystem resilience for the forests they own or manage via effective implementation of the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard requirements including:
 - a. prompt reforestation or planned natural reforestation as per Indictor 2.1.1
 - b. adequate regeneration and appropriate actions to correct understocked areas, and
 - c. evaluation for afforestation of areas that are not ecologically important, and
 - d. protection of desirable or planned advanced regeneration during harvest and the retention of vigorous trees during partial harvest.
- 3. Based on best scientific information, Certified Organizations shall develop a program to identify and address greenhouse gas emissions within their operational control.
- 4. Certified Organizations shall report annually to SFI Inc. their measures to mitigate climate change associated with forest operations.

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

SFI-certified Organizations contribute nature-based solutions to the harmful impacts of climate change by climate-informed management of forests and forest operations.

♦ WHY IT MATTERS

Sustainably managed forests are a well-recognized and effective tool to reduce and mitigate the harmful effects of a changing climate, and in turn climate change also poses significant risks to forests. This objective supports climate-informed silvicultural approaches and operations targets for SFI certified forests, and facilitates the ability of SFI and Certified Organizations to communicate positive outcomes from climate smart forestry objectives.

10.1 What climate change risks did your organization identify to your forests and forest operations as per SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard Performance Measure 9.1:

Risks to forest health, such as

- o changes to precipitation regimes (e.g., dryer or wetter growing conditions)
- o range shifts in pest species or invasive species that pose a threat to forests)
- o increased risk of pests (could also combine these and say increased risk of pests or pathogens)
- o increased risk of fire (see also section on fire resiliency);
- increased risk of flooding;



- o increased risk of salinization;
- o increased risk of severe storm damage
- o species maladaptation to shifting climate zones
- Other risks (PLEASE SPECIFY)

Risks to forestry operations

- o shortened harvest season(s) and impacts to silviculture operations
- o Increased flooding severity and extent
- Other risks (PLEASE SPECIFY)

10.2	What adaptation strategies has your organization developed to address climate
	change risks to forests and forest operations per SFI 2022 Forest Management
	Standard Performance Measure 9.1

	Standard Performance Measure 9.1
	Adjustments to shorter harvest seasons due to spring thaw and shorter winters
	Adjustments to scheduling of operations such as access trail/road construction, site
	preparation due to increased peak flow, extended wet seasons or flood conditions.
	Assisted tree migration through selective planting
	Changes to larger culverts or bridge structures to accommodate higher peak flows and flood conditions
	Changes to road layout and design to resist washouts from floods, or to create systemic fire breaks
	Development of new silvicultural techniques to accommodate altered growing conditions
	Other plans and actions (PLEASE SPECIFY)
	climate benefits associated with forest management operations on the forests you own or manage as per SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard Performance Measure 9.2?
	planting of more drought tolerant species
	fuel load reduction in managed forests
	changes in annual harvesting schedules (e.g., extended rotation)
	changes in seed sources
	changes in silvicultural practices (e.g., maintaining carbon storage)
	5
	other opportunities (PLEASE SPECIFY)
10.4	What has your organization done to mitigate the effects associated with your forest operations on climate change as per SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard Performance Measure 9.2?

□ Prompt reforestation or planned natural reforestation as per Indicator 2.1.1;

□ Evaluation for afforestation of areas that are not ecologically important, and

□ Adequate regeneration and appropriate actions to correct understocked areas, and

Protection of desirable or planned advanced regeneration during harvest and the retention

of vigorous trees during partial harvest



	Planned thinning or other silvicultural practices to enhance forest growth				
☐ Species selection to enhance forest resilience					
	3 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
	Modifications to site preparation techniques to reduce soil disturbance, compaction, tillage,				
	and equipment use to reduce soil carbon losses				
	Identify alternative uses for logging waste to manage for fuel abatement and minimizing				
	open burning				
	Increased equipment maintenance Utilize correct equipment size/type				
П					
П	Quantified results of changes to climate related indicators of progress (e.g., reduction in				
	fuel use, increased tree growth) (please explain/provide examples)?				
	Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)				
10.5 Does yo	ur organization have a greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory?				
Yes / No / In p	progress				
If yes: Please pretrics:	provide details on the scope of your GHG inventory by selecting the following potential				
_	Forest carbon pools and fluxes				
	- Is all or part of your land base included in your carbon accounting?				
	Comment:				
-	Harvested wood products (e.g., life cycle analyses)				
-	Emissions in forestry operations (e.g., fuel use, transportation)				
-	Operational emissions (e.g., buildings and infrastructure)				
-	Other sources of emission (please add):				
adaptation st forest operat Use the upload	formation sources, models, or tools are you using to inform your climate change trategies and plans, and your measures to mitigate climate change associated with ions? (e.g., references or websites)? (OPTIONAL) If feature to share documents: (upload option for pdf, xls, csv,.doc) Treferences or websites:				
•	g informational resources, models and tools to create guidance and additional references to certified organizations to support the Climate Smart Forestry Objective.				



11. FIRE RESILIANCE AND AWARENESS

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD: Objective 10. Fire Resilience and Awareness

To limit susceptibility of forests to undesirable impacts of wildfire and to raise community awareness of fire benefits, risks, and minimization measures.

Performance Measure 10.1 On the forests they own or manage, Certified Organizations shall limit susceptibility to undesirable impacts of wildfire, promote healthy and resilient forest conditions through management techniques, actions and/or policies, and support restoration of forests following wildfire damage.

Performance Measure 10.2 Certified Organizations shall individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving government agencies, SFI Implementation Committees, Project Learning Tree, or other partners, engage in efforts to raise awareness of and take action towards benefits of fire management and minimization of undesirable impacts of wildfire.

$oldsymbol{\downarrow}$ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

One-third of SFI-Certified Organization raise awareness of the benefits of fire management through youth education.

Forests certified to the SFI Forest Management are addressing fire risk proactively through risk assessments, and best practices to reduce the risk of catastrophic fire.

The implementation of the Fire Resiliency and Awareness Objective in the SFI Forest Management standard has resulted in a shift toward more consistent risk assessments and best practices to prevent catastrophic fire.

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

There is acute public awareness of the risk that the increasing number and severity of fires poses to forests and their communities. By demonstrating proactive management of fire risk, SFI-certified forests can protect public safety and human health while continuing to provide forest products, habitat for wildlife, carbon storage, clean air, and purified water.

11.1 Has your organization developed a fire risk analysis to date? YES/NO			
If yes, during the course of your fire risk analysis, what risks has your organization			
identified? [FREE TEXT]			
11.2 What management techniques has your organization used to limit susceptibility to			
undesirable impacts of wildfire on forests your organization owns or manages (check all			
that apply):			
□ Prescribed burning,			
 Road network design to create systemic fire breaks 			



	Selection of fire-resistant tree species, as appropriate for the landscape
	□ Stand thinning
	□ Other treatments to reduce levels of hazardous fuels, such as brushing and dead wood
	removals
	□ Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
	ough management techniques, actions and/or policies how does your organization
_	healthy and resilient forest conditions and support restoration of forests following
	damage on forests your organization owns or manages (check all that apply)?
[
_	Installation of water or erosion control devices
	Planting or seeding for erosion control or slope stability
	Installation of appropriate-sized drainage features on roads or trails
	Protection or restoration of significant ecological areas, or FECV
	Monitoring for detection and rapid response to minimize the spread of invasive species
	Prompt reforestation of burned areas
	Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)
	w does your organization engage in efforts to raise awareness of and take action
	benefits of fire management and minimization of undesirable impacts of wildfire as
per PM :	
(Check	all that apply):
	☐ Included in our organization's training programs, please explain and provide example(s)
	□ Support/participate in youth education, please explain and provide example(s)
	☐ Involved in community fire prevention programs, please explain and provide example(s)
	□ Participate in existing programs promoting fire management benefits, please explain
	Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

12. FORESTS OUTSIDE US/CANADA AND FOREST TREE BIOTECHNOLOGY

FOREST TREE BIOTECHNOLOGY

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI 2022 STANDARD REFERENCE - SECTION 8. SFI POLICIES

Part 2: SFI Policy on Genetically Modified Trees via Forest Tree Biotechnology

The SFI Board of Directors approved an SFI policy on forest tree biotechnology in April 2021. The use of genetically modified organisms is an evolving issue and as federal and international laws, regulations, agreements, treaties and marketplace recognition of the use of genetically modified trees via forest tree biotechnology change, SFI Inc. will continue to proactively review and update the SFI 2022 Standards and Rules language and this policy as necessary.



♦ WHY IT MATTERS:

Aggregate data from this question is used for monitoring and to help us understand the number of certified organizations engaged on this topic. Data collected in this question also helps SFI understand our ability to conform with PEFC International requirements.

12.1 We currently invest in research and/or plan on investing in research with Genetically Engineered trees via forest tree biotechnology Yes / No

If yes, select country from dropdown menu

REPORTING FORESTS OUTSIDE THE USA & CANADA

ψ WHY IT MATTERS:

This question only applies to a few SFI-certified organizations and is not related to standard requirements. The data is used to understand the countries SFI-certified organizations operate in which help support SFI's work to positively influence procurement policies in those relevant countries.

12.2 Please complete the table with certified forest area and certification standard (if relevant) for your forestlands outside the USA & Canada.			
Country	Total Area Managed		Certification Standard
list	acres/hectares	yes/no	dropdown



SIC COLLABORATION ON STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

Have you coordinated with an SIC on any SFI standard objectives? Yes/No

- If yes:
 - Please select the SFI Forest Management Objective you are coordinating with an SIC
 - Which SIC(s)?
 - Please select the SFI Fiber Sourcing Objective you are coordinating with an SIC
 - Which SIC(s)?

What topics should your SIC prioritize? [Text box]

FACE LIGE THIS CRACE TO PROVIDE CEL WITH ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS			
EASE USE THIS SPACE TO PROVIDE SFI WITH ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS			
SIGN OFF & SUBN	1IT		
 I acknowledge and certify that all of the information submitted is true for all our manufacturing facilities or lands under our ownership or management across the U.S. and Canada. 			
SAVE RESULTS	SUBMIT RESULTS		PRINT REPORT (PDF)