SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

Position: Conservation Data and Research Intern
Supervisor: Senior Director, Conservation Science and Strategy
Location: Flexible in Canada
Status: Fixed Term, Salaried, Eligible for Overtime

ABOUT US:

At the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI), we believe that sustainable forests are critical to our collective future. SFI is a sustainability leader through our work in *standards*, *conservation*, *community*, and *education*. As an independent, non-profit organization, we collaborate with our diverse network to provide solutions to local and global sustainability challenges. SFI works with the forest sector, brand owners, conservation groups, resource professionals, landowners, educators, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, governments, and universities. SFI is governed by an independent three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social, and economic sectors equally.

SFI advances conservation objectives in forests throughout North America through the values expressed in our standards, carefully targeted research and grants, leadership of critical initiatives, and developing partnerships that bridge the forest landowner and conservation communities. Collaborating with our network, we leverage SFI-certified forests and products as powerful tools to help solve sustainability challenges such as climate action, conservation of biodiversity, education of future generations, and sustainable economic development.

ABOUT YOU:

In collaboration with SFI's Coordinator of GIS and Conservation Research, the Conservation Data and Research Intern will advance SFI's mission by finding and preparing environmental data for analysis, updating existing datasets, and creating a research database. The intern will also support the conservation team by tracking results of partner projects by reviewing annual survey results and collecting peer-reviewed or grey literature for an SFI-related research repository.

This position is funded through support from Natural Resources Canada's Science and Technology Internship Program (STIP). The maximum internship duration is nine (9) months and internships must end by of March 31, 2023.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Searching for, collecting, preparing, organizing, and storing spatial data for analysis within ArcPRO GIS software. Data sources may be partner organizations, government agencies, academic sources, or spatial data repositories that are deemed to be credible.
- Updating existing datasets and maps to better explain and communicate the value of SFI certified forest management, or to assist in research analyses concerning the role of sustainable forest management in maintaining conservation values.
- Tracking and documenting partner research project data and results that emanate from SFI's forest management research requirement within the SFI Sustainable Forest Management Standard.
- Creating a research database – including published papers, grey literature, and publicly available reports - in Microsoft Excel or Access. This database will be used as a repository of new findings and BMPs available to the broader SFI community, for dissemination and application across the SFI landscape in North America, as appropriate.
- Supporting the engagement of new partners, ESG benchmarking, and other conservation priorities as needed.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
This position is funded partly through support from Natural Resources Canada's Science and Technology Internship Program (STIP). To be eligible for this internship, candidates must:
- Be between 15-30 years old at the start of employment;
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act for the duration of the employment; and
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS / TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS:
Physical requirements include ability to work from a desk at a computer for prolonged periods of time; occasional lifting/carrying of up to 10 pounds. Subject to sitting, standing, reaching, walking, twisting, and kneeling to perform the essential functions.

This position requires occasional travel within the US and Canada, up to 5% of time.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS
Employees based in the Washington, DC and Ottawa, Ontario regions will be expected to report to the local offices several days a week. We strongly encourage employees to get vaccinated against COVID-19. You will be asked to either provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or wear a mask while in the SFI's offices.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- University Degree in Environmental Science, Natural Resources, Forestry, Conservation, or related discipline.
- Demonstrated experience using ArcPRO GIS software to manage and visualize spatial data.
- Proficiency with Microsoft 365 Suite.

QUALIFICATIONS/PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

The ideal candidate will bring:
- Excellent organizational skills with attention to detail and the ability to effectively plan, analyze, and meet deadlines;
- Demonstrated ability to be a problem solver and a utility player;
- Positive attitude and high energy, enjoyment working cooperatively in a team environment, and will prioritize the mission over individual agendas;
- Dedication to the principles of DEI, and the value of indigenous knowledge and values toward forest conservation;
- Experience building positive and collaborative relationships with partners and stakeholders;
- Ability to assimilate information from a variety of sources, analyze information and make recommendations for appropriate actions as necessary;
- Track record for managing multiple complex projects in a fast-paced environment, handling tasks with diplomacy, tenacity, patience, and a drive for results;
- Superior written and verbal communications skills;
- A sound work ethic with the ability to act both independently and as part of a team.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this position, email a resume and cover letter to the attention of Darren Sleep at careers@forests.org. Subject line should say "Application: Conservation Data and Research Intern". Applications will be accepted until August 30 or until the position is filled.

SFI Inc. is proud to provide our employees with a collaborative, dynamic, and rewarding professional experience, with a competitive compensation and benefits package and growth opportunities. We are committed to creating a diverse environment and being an equal opportunity employer. Our team represents a broad range of cultures, education, disciplines, and work and life experiences, and we strive to leverage these differences in our daily work. We will not discriminate against any employee or applicant on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, disability, or any other protected characteristic. We believe in creating an empowered and supportive team that is committed to advancing sustainability through forest-focused collaborations.

Learn more about SFI Staff Culture, read our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy, and review our Indigenous Relations Commitment.