

FOREST CERTIFICATION

FOR INDIGENOUS

COMMUNITIES AND BUSINESSES

At the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, we believe that sustainable forests are critical to our collective future. As an independent, non-profit organization, we collaborate with our diverse network to create forest-focused solutions to local and global sustainability challenges.

SFI'S MISSION:

To advance sustainability through forest-focused collaboration.

SFI'S VISION:

A world that values and benefits from sustainably managed forests.

SFI'S INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITMENT:

SFI is committed to building and promoting forest-focused collaborations rooted in recognition and respect for Indigenous Peoples' rights and traditional knowledge. Every day, we strive to cocreate meaningful change alongside our community partners, while also listening, learning, and growing as an organization to become the best possible partner we can be.

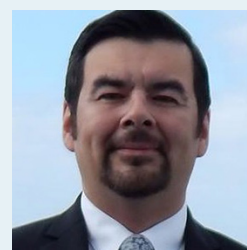
SFI HAS
PARTNERED WITH
AND/OR INVESTED
IN OVER

180
INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES

SFI'S INDIGENOUS RELATIONS TEAM



PAUL ROBITAILLE, MSc.F.
Sr. Advisor,
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JEFFREY ROSS
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Indigenous Forest
Certification



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JOIN THE SFI COMMUNITY

SFI is North America’s largest independent, third-party forest certification standard. By certifying your forest to the SFI Forest Management Standard or SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module, you are joining a growing community that’s dedicated to advancing sustainability through forest-focused collaboration.



“The SFI Standard reinforces many of the objectives we currently have in managing our forests – protecting special sites, conservation, and community involvement. Through certification to SFI we can now communicate these important values to our customers and communities.”

CHIEF LORRAINE COBINESS
PRESIDENT, MITIGOOG L.P.



VALUES-DRIVEN CERTIFICATION STANDARDS

SFI Certification promotes holistic approaches to sustainable forest management, centering important values, including:

- conservation of biodiversity
- water quality and protection
- respect for Indigenous peoples’ rights
- protection of cultural sites
- forest health and productivity
- recreation and visual quality
- community outreach and involvement
- continuous improvement

BENEFITS OF SFI CERTIFICATION

- Greater market access through SFI-certified mills and supply chains.
- Enhanced credibility through independent third-party audits and measurable indicators.
- Tailored certification costs and requirements to meet the needs of Indigenous businesses.
- Collaboration with other forest sector leaders through SFI Implementation Committees.
- Funding through SFI Community and Conservation Grants, Green Jobs for Youth, Certification Readiness Supports, and more!

65

INDIGENOUS

communities, businesses, and partnerships across Canada and the United States have certified to the SFI Forest Management Standard or the SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module

**ACROSS MORE THAN
23 MILLION ACRES/
9 MILLION HECTARES**



WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR SFI CERTIFICATION?

- Indigenous (First Nation, Métis, Inuit) communities and governments
- Indigenous Economic Development Corporations and their subsidiaries
- Indigenous partnerships and joint ventures
- Indigenous entrepreneurs and family-owned businesses

CERTIFICATION SOLUTIONS FOR FORESTS OF ALL SIZES

SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT STANDARD

The SFI Forest Management Standard promotes sustainable forestry practices based on 13 Principles, 17 Objectives, 41 Performance Measures and 141 Indicators. These requirements include measures to protect water quality, biodiversity, wildlife habitat, species at risk and forests with exceptional conservation value.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for certification under the SFI Forest Management Standard, a forest must:

- Exceed 20,000 hectares under active management for timber production;
- Be under the management of a resource professional, such as a forester;
- Undergo independent audits by competent and accredited certification bodies.

Large, volume-based tenures are also eligible for certification.



“The timber-based economy of the Yakama Nation is unique in that it balances economic needs while ensuring the protection of Yakama cultural and traditional practices. To keep this balance, it’s critical that we maintain a high sustainability standard, and SFI helps us do just that.”

STEVE ANDRINGA
ADMINISTRATIVE FORESTER,
YAKAMA NATION



SFI INDIGENOUS PEOPLES & FAMILIES MODULE

The SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module provides a pathway for small Indigenous community and family forests to obtain a leading, globally recognized third-party forest certification using requirements that are tailored to their unique needs.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible for certification under the SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module, a forest must:

- Not exceed 20,000 hectares under active management for timber production;
- Be under the management of a resource professional, such as a forester;
- Undergo independent audits by competent and accredited certification bodies.

Small, volume-based tenures are also eligible for certification to the SFI Indigenous Peoples and Families Module.



PARTNERING TO ADVANCE INDIGENOUS PRIORITIES

SFI 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. We have proudly partnered with and invested in over 180 Indigenous communities through our growing suite of Standards, Conservation, Education, and Community programs.



STANDARDS

SFI offers a variety of leading forest certification standards and can provide Indigenous communities and businesses with supports to achieve a successful third-party forest certification audit.



CONSERVATION

SFI's **Conservation Grants Program** offers annual grants for projects that quantify and demonstrate the value of SFI-certified forestlands, and lands providing fiber through the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard, toward mitigating climate change impacts, enhancing biodiversity, and protecting water resources.



EDUCATION

SFI's **Education Grants Program** offers annual grants for projects that support the delivery of Project Learning Tree (PLT), an initiative of SFI, programming and partnership development. PLT and PLT Canada also offer professional development and activities and resources to engage children in learning about the environment through the lens of trees and forests.



Career pathways and workforce development supports are also available through PLT and PLT Canada, with mentorship programs, green jobs wage matching in Canada, and resources to inspire the next generation of forest and conservation leaders.



COMMUNITY

SFI's **Community Grants Program** offers annual grants for projects that promote collaboration with the SFI Network and support local communities' understanding of the value and benefits from sustainably managed forests.



CONTACT SFI TO LEARN MORE!

Contact **Jeffrey Ross**, Director, Indigenous Forest Certification, for inquiries about certification.

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Contact **Elaina Cox**, Coordinator, Indigenous Relations, for all other inquiries.

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Learn more at forests.org.