

# SFI Inc. 2012 Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program South Carolina Forestry Foundation Teaching Sustainable Forestry through Environmental Education

# **Project Overview**

The <u>South Carolina Forestry Foundation</u> will receive a total of \$10,000 for two seven-day graduate-level teachers' tours in 2012 and 2013 showing how working forests support South Carolina's environment, economy and quality of life, and using SFI water resources requirements as a model for responsible forestry.

# Supporting the SFI Standard

The project will support requirements in the SFI 2010-2014 Standard related to protection of water resources and community involvement, including Objective 3: Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources; Objective 10: Adherence to Best Management Practices; and Objective 17: Community Involvement in the Practice of Sustainable Forestry. It will also support Objective 9: Use of Qualified Resource and Qualified Logging Professionals.

#### **Project Partners**

In addition to the South Carolina Forestry Foundation, partners include the South Carolina SFI Implementation Committee, South Carolina Forestry Commission, South Carolina Timber Producers Association and South Carolina Tree Farm Committee.

### **Project Details**

The teachers' tours are designed to provide an unbiased look into the impact forests have on South Carolina's environment, economy and quality of life, and to show how SFI 2010-2014 Standard requirements support sustainable forestry, with emphasis on protection of water resources. It will look at ways to encourage youth to become involved in forestry, natural resources activities and careers.

The graduate level conservation courses include three days of advanced environmental education training at the South Carolina Forestry Commission's Harbison State Forest Environmental Education Center in Columbia, SC, followed by a four-day field workshop/tour. Guest speakers include educators, foresters, researchers, wildlife biologists, and professionals within the industries toured and state and federal government agency professionals. Participants will be able to use the educational materials supporting the training in their classroom curriculum.

# **About the South Carolina Forestry Foundation**

The private, non-profit <u>South Carolina Forestry Foundation</u> is a partnership of individuals and companies, including landowners, loggers, foresters, educators, researchers, conservationists, and sportsmen, dedicated to forest conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources.