

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.

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

2024 SFI ANNUAL SURVEY: FIBER SOURCING

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

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QUESTIONS FOR SFI FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

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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.

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS



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
 - l. 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.

↓ 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*

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

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

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
 - In Kind Internal Funding/External Funding & amount
- 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
 - Retailer/Consumer-facing Companies
 - Other Forest Products Companies
 - Clubs
 - Foundations
 - Other Organizations: [text entry]

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

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)

- 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

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

- 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
 - 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
 - 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
 - Indigenous Communities
 - SFI-Certified Organizations
 - Associations
 - Consultants

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS



- Retailer/Consumer-facing Companies
- Other Forest Products Companies
- Clubs
- Foundations
- Start and end year
- Still active in 2023? Y/N
- 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?
 - Share- with our organization's name
 - Share- don't use our organization's name
 - 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).

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

Multiple entries possible

QUESTIONS FOR BOTH SFI FOREST MANAGEMENT & FIBER SOURCING CERTIFIED ORGANIZATIONS

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
 - Indigenous engagement
 - Youth Education and Forest Literacy
 - Training on best practices and sustainable forest management (adult audiences)
 - Reaching underserved communities
 - 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
- 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.

↓ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

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

↓ 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.

3.1 Which social laws are explicitly referenced in your written policy as per Performance Measure 11.2 (Forest Management) and 4.2 (Fiber Sourcing)?

(check 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

13. BIODIVERSITY IN FIBER SOURCING

↓ STANDARD REFERENCE

SFI FIBER SOURCING STANDARD: Objective 1. Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing. To address the practice of sustainable forestry by conserving biological diversity.

Performance Measure 1.1. Promotion and conservation of biological diversity.

Indicators:

1. Certified Organizations shall address conservation of biodiversity, individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, through a program that includes one or more of the following:

- a. promotion of biological diversity concepts utilizing information from organizations such as the World Resources Institute, The Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, Conservation International, State Wildlife Action Plans, State Forest Action Plans and assessments;
- b. conducting local and regional level landscape assessments;
- c. involvement with local or regional conservation efforts;
- d. use of relevant information on biological diversity from credible sources (such as those noted above) in approved training and education programs; and
- e. other credible approaches.

Performance Measure 1.2. Promotion and conservation of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value.

Indicators:

1. Certified Organizations shall conduct an assessment, individually and/or through cooperative efforts involving SFI Implementation Committees, of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, defined as critically imperiled and imperiled species and ecological communities, within their wood and fiber supply area(s) and make the summary of the assessment available to wood producers.

2. Program to address Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (critically imperiled and imperiled species and ecological communities) for all harvest operations through fiber sourcing activities such as:

- a. use of qualified logging professionals, certified logging companies (where available), and qualified resource professionals; or
- b. training program for qualified logging professionals on how to recognize and protect Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value; or
- c. through in-the-forest verification by certified logging companies; or
- d. forest landowner outreach; or
- e. SFI Implementation Committee involvement in the assessment of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and development of recommendations for conservation.

3. Certified Organizations shall conduct and incorporate the results of a Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (critically imperiled and imperiled species and ecological communities) assessment to promote conservation of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value for purchased stumpage.

↓ EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION

SFI-certified organizations conduct an assessment of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value within their wood and fiber supply area.

↓ **WHY IT MATTERS:**

Conserving biological diversity protects wildlife habitat and ensures healthy forests.

13.1 Are you experiencing challenges with assessing FECVs (Performance Measure 1.2, Indicator 1) within your wood and fiber supply area?

- Yes – explain
- no

13.2 How is your organization applying the results of your assessment of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value (FECVs) in your wood and fiber supply area?: (*check all that apply*):

- use of qualified logging professionals, certified logging companies (where available), and qualified resource professionals; or
- training program for qualified logging professionals, certified logging companies (where available) and qualified resource professionals on how to recognize and protect Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value; or
- through in-the-forest verification by certified logging companies; or
- forest landowner outreach; or
- SFI Implementation Committee involvement in the assessment of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and development of recommendations for conservation.
- We haven't applied the results yet
- Other (PLEASE SPECIFY)

13.3: Specific to Performance Measure 1.2, Indicator 3, do you procure purchased stumpage?

Yes/No

- If yes, how have you incorporated the results of your FECV assessment. [*open text field*]

14. USE OF QUALIFIED RESOURCE PROFESSIONALS, QUALIFIED LOGGING PROFESSIONALS

RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY – FIBER PROCURED FROM THE USA AND CANADA

↓ **STANDARD REFERENCE**

SFI FIBER SOURCING STANDARD: Objective 3. Use of Qualified Resource Professionals, Qualified Logging Professionals and Certified Logging Companies

To promote and utilize qualified logging professionals, qualified resource professionals and certified logging companies.

↓ **EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION**

- Aggregate data from these questions are used in SFI's progress report and other collateral.
- 96% of all fiber supplied to SFI-certified mills in 2022 was delivered by trained harvesting professionals - compared to 34% in 1995.
- Enough fiber was sourced through the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard to build 2.3 million average sized homes.
- At the core of our network are the SFI Implementation Committees that engage at the state, provincial, and regional levels to collaborate on training harvesting professionals, maintaining the integrity of the SFI standards, promoting responsible forestry, sharing knowledge with family landowners, and providing educational opportunities for youth and adults.

↓ **WHY IT MATTERS:**

Training logging professionals ensures that forest operations are held to high standards of performance, regardless of whether their land is certified.

(Answer separately for USA & CANADA)

Raw material supply is fiber procured directly from the forest to your SFI manufacturing facilities.

14.1 Complete the following table(s) with the total volume of raw material supply you procure directly from the forest to your SFI manufacturing facilities (leave blank if not relevant).

	Units	Volume	% Delivered by Qualified Logging Professionals	% from SFI only certified forests	% from ATFS only certified forests	% from CSA only certified forests	Select standard combination if reporting volume certified to more than one standard (standard

							combination dropdown and % certified)
Private							
Public							
Indigenous/ Tribal – Public							
Indigenous/ Tribal – Private							

15.COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND LANDOWNER OUTREACH

↓ **STANDARD REFERENCE**

SFI FIBER SOURCING STANDARD Objective 7. Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach

To broaden the practice of sustainable forestry through public outreach, education, and involvement, and to support the efforts of SFI Implementation Committees.

↓ **EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION**

92% of SFI-certified organizations with Fiber Sourcing certification impacted, educated, or assisted private landowners in 2022, in addition to the outreach of the SICs.

↓ **WHY IT MATTERS:**

Outreach and education improves the public’s understanding of the importance of sustainable forestry, its connection to many relevant local and global issues, and helps create informed consumers of sustainably-sourced forest products

15.1 Acknowledging that your organization may be coordinating through your SIC on landowner outreach, how has your organization (on its own) impacted, educated, or assisted private landowners in the last year? Check all that apply:

- Handed out brochures
- Participated in a conference or workshop for landowners
- Partnered with state or county extension programs
- Partnered with American Tree Farm System
- Other (please explain)

16.AVOID CONTROVERSIAL SOURCES

RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY – FIBER PROCURED FROM OUTSIDE THE USA AND CANADA

↓ **STANDARD REFERENCE**

SFI FIBER SOURCING STANDARD Objective 11. Avoid Controversial Sources.

To manage the risk of sourcing fiber products from controversial sources.

↓ **EXAMPLE ON HOW WE WILL USE THIS INFORMATION**

SFI IS LOW RISK. Less than 1% of supply is procured by SFI-certified organizations in the US and Canada comes from offshore - this information is helpful when determining risk from our supply chain and for purposes of the Lacey Act and EU Timber regulations.

↓ **WHY IT MATTERS:**

A due diligence system minimizes the risk of sourcing from controversial sources, whether in the United States, Canada or offshore.

**16.1 How much raw fiber did your organization procure from outside the USA and Canada?
Enter fiber procured from outside the USA and Canada**

RAW MATERIAL SUPPLY - Country	Units	Volume	% PEFC certified forest content derived outside USA & Canada	% FSC certified forest content derived outside USA & Canada	% Dual PEFC/FSC forest content derived outside USA & Canada	% Fiber covered by your risk assessment following Fiber Sourcing Standard Objective 11	Optional comment field for additional context
<i>country dropdown</i>							
<i>country dropdown</i>							

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]

PLEASE USE THIS SPACE TO PROVIDE SFI WITH ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

SIGN OFF & SUBMIT

- 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)