

# Overview of SFI Inc.'s Current Activities Regarding Carbon Markets and Next Steps

SFI Inc., Carbon Task Force

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## Board Directive

“The Task Force will explore the carbon opportunities in the context of the SFI Standard and certification and assist staff to clarify the scope of the NCASI-submitted proposal and to demonstrate broader scientific/conservation participation in joint projects that SFI Inc. may pursue in this field.”

# Members

- **Brian Kernohan (Chair)**, Forest Capital Partners
- **Mike Branch**, Smurfit-Stone
- **Roger Sedjo**, Resources for the Future
- **Rob Olszewski**, Plum Creek Timber Company
- **Mark Pawlicki**, Sierra Pacific Industries
- **Cassie Phillips**, Weyerhaeuser Company
- **Laurie Wayburn**, The Pacific Forest Trust
  
- **Staff:** Rick Cantrell, Allison Welde



# Educational Webinar

January 30, 2008

- **Forest Carbon Sequestration Basics** – Olga Krankina, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Senior Research, Forest Management & Ecology, Oregon State University
- **Current carbon policy and market options** – Neil Sampson, The Sampson Group
- **Carbon and greenhouse gas accounting issues important to the forest-based industry** – Al Lucier, Senior Vice President & Reid Miner, Vice President, Sustainable Manufacturing, NCASI

# Opportunities

1. Sustainable Forest Management Assurance
2. SFI Inc. as a Carbon Information Source
3. SFI Inc. as a Policy Advocate
4. SFI Certification as a Market Entry Tool
5. SFI Standard Revision



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# Sustainable Forest Management Assurance

## Enabling Certified Landowners to Enter Carbon Markets

- Produce a white paper on the role of certification in carbon markets
  1. Introduction
  2. Forests, Carbon and Climate Change Overview
  3. Climate Registry Review
    - 3.1. Summary
    - 3.2. Acceptable Activity Review (e.g., reforestation)
    - 3.3. Sustainable Forest Management Requirements
      - 3.3.1. Certification Systems Accepted
  4. Opportunities
    - 4.1. Forestry in a Cap and Trade Market
    - 4.2. Private, voluntary standards on carbon neutrality
    - 4.3. Forestry Offset Protocols
    - 4.4. Other Opportunities
  5. Discussion



# SFI Inc. as a Carbon Information Source

## Connecting Program Participants with Information

- Knowledgeable staff able to assistance Program Participants
- Create a conduit to information related to carbon markets and forestry
- Develop a set of messages relating to responsibly managed forests and the role they play in carbon sequestration
- Defer consideration of NCASI's research proposal

# SFI Inc. as a Policy Advocate

## Taking a Position on the Role of Forests

- Complete the white paper on the role of certification in carbon markets prior to deliberating development of a policy position
- Recognize that PEFC has released a Climate Change and Certification position paper (April 8, 2008)
- Recognize that SAF (among others) sponsored development of a paper titled “Managed Forests in Climate Change Policy: Program Design Elements”

# SFI Certification as a Market Entry Tool

## Benefiting from Synergies

- Consider developing guidance for Program Participants to verify carbon stocks during certification audits
- Following completion of the white paper, explore the feasibility of developing processes to verify eligibility of carbon credits from responsibly managed forests

# SFI Standard Revision

## Assisting in the Revision Process

- As a group provide any comments or direction to the SFI Review Task force based on work completed

# Key Messages

## SFI Certification and Carbon

*SFI certified forests result in healthy growing forests that absorb more carbon and are less susceptible to fire, insects and disease.*

- Managed, certified forests provide climate change mitigation benefits over time by ensuring forests are managed to high environmental standards and that harvested areas are regenerated. Harvested trees are made into solid wood products like the lumber for your home, that not only emit less greenhouse gasses during production, but are capable of storing carbon.



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# Key Messages

## The Science of Forests and Carbon

*Healthy forests store carbon; mitigating the impacts of climate change.*

- Forests in the United States alone sequester about 200 million metric tons of carbon each year, offsetting about 10% of annual U.S. emissions from burning fossil fuels.

# Key Messages

## Forest Products and Carbon

*Wood products help to address climate change because they are renewable and recyclable, and continue to store much of the carbon absorbed by the trees.* By using wood instead of energy-intensive materials such as steel, concrete or plastics, society can significantly reduce its reliance on fossil fuels and its greenhouse gas emissions.

# Key Messages

## Keeping Forests as Forests

*Keeping forests as forests is an integral part of the climate change solution.*

- Carbon trading markets can also provide added benefit for forestland owners that manage their land responsibly and provide an incentive for these landowners to keep their forests in forests and not sell it for development.



***Thank you!***