



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

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SFI-00001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Head of Resource Management Service Elected to SFI Board**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Craig Blair, President and CEO of Resource Management Service LLC (RMS) has been elected to the independent Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc.® (SFI®) Board of Directors.

“Our company was founded in 1950 by two foresters who shared a vision of the economic and environmental benefits sustainably managed private forests could provide to our nation,” Blair said today. “I’m pleased to be able to continue that legacy as a member of SFI’s Board of Directors. Certification plays a vital role in leading the continual improvement of forest management practices and providing customers with certainty that the products they use each day come from well-managed forests that are sustained for current and future generations.”

RMS is a privately held timberland investment firm serving pension funds, endowments, foundations and family offices. Its lands in the United States are certified to the SFI 2010-2014 Standard. Blair, who has led the company since 2010, has direct responsibility for its investments and operating businesses in the United States, Australia, Brazil, China and New Zealand. As Chair of the company’s Board of Managers and Investment Committee, he leads a team of forestry and financial professionals that manage a global timberland portfolio of more than \$4.5 billion.

“Craig Blair has broad experience in the forest sector in North America and globally, and he will be able to make a strong contribution to our multi-disciplinary board,” SFI President and CEO Kathy Abusow said. “I am looking forward to working with RMS because of their global perspective on emerging forestry and supply chain issues.”

The three-chamber SFI board represents environmental, economic and social interests equally, and members include representatives of environmental, professional and academic groups, independent loggers, family forest landowners, public officials, labor and the forest products sector.

Blair joins David Walkem, President of Stuwix Resources Joint Venture, who was also elected to the SFI board’s economic chamber. They replace Daniel S. Fulton, President and CEO, Weyerhaeuser Company, and Rick R. Holley, President and CEO, Plum Creek Timber Company Ltd.

SFI Inc. is a registered charitable organization responsible for the largest single forest certification standard in the world. The SFI program works with a wide array of partners to improve forest management in Canada and the United States, and sourcing worldwide.

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**Editors Note: Attached is background information about Craig Blair and a list of SFI Inc. board members. More information about SFI Inc.’s independent governance is available at [www.sfiprogram.org/sustainable-forestry-initiative/sfi-governance.php](http://www.sfiprogram.org/sustainable-forestry-initiative/sfi-governance.php).**

#### **About SFI Inc.**

SFI Inc. is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, and is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program ([www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org)). Across North America, more than 79 million hectares/195 million acres are certified to the SFI forest management standard, making it the largest single forest standard in the world.



### **BACKGROUND: Craig Blair**

Craig Blair is President and CEO of Resource Management Service LLC ([www.resourcemgt.com](http://www.resourcemgt.com)), a privately held timberland investment firm serving pension funds, endowments, foundations and family offices.

Blair assumed the role in October 2010, and has direct responsibility for the company's investments and operating businesses in the United States, Australia, Brazil, China and New Zealand. He is Chair of the company's Board of Managers and Investment Committee, leading an experienced team of forestry and financial professionals that manage a global timberland portfolio of over \$4.5 billion.

Over a 29-year career, Blair has held a variety of positions at RMS and with the forest products industry, with experience in resource planning, forest management and wood procurement.

Blair holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Forest Management from the University of Arkansas at Monticello and a Master of Forestry degree in Forest Business from Mississippi State University.



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## **BACKGROUND: SFI INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS March 2012**

### **Board members representing the environmental sector, which includes non-profit environmental or conservation organizations:**

- Larry Selzer, (Vice-Chair) President and CEO, The Conservation Fund
- George Finney, President, Bird Studies Canada
- Tom Franklin, Senior Director of Science and Policy, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- John M. Hagan III, President, Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences
- Roger Sedjo, Senior Fellow, Resources for the Future
- Mike Zagata, President and CEO, Ruffed Grouse Society

### **Board members representing the social sector, which includes community or social interest groups such as universities, labour, family forest owners or government agencies:**

- Richard W. (Dick) Brinker (Secretary-Treasurer), Dean Emeritus, School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences, Auburn University
- Stewart Hardacre, President and CEO, Habitat for Humanity Canada
- Steven W. Koehn, Director/State Forester, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Charles Tattersall (Tat) Smith Jr., Former Dean and Professor, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto
- William V. (Bill) Street Jr., Director, Woodworkers Department, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers

### **Board members representing the economic sector, which includes the forest, paper and wood products industry or other for-profit forest ownership or management entities:**

- Robert A. (Bob) Luoto (Chair), representing independent professional loggers and the American Loggers Council
- Craig Blair, President and CEO, Resource Management Service LLC
- John B. Crowe, Chairman and CEO, Buckeye Technologies Inc.
- Matthew Donegan, Co-President, Forest Capital Partners LLC
- Henry H. (Hank) Ketcham, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd.
- David Walkem, Chief of the Cooks Ferry Indian Band, Merritt, British Columbia, and President, Stuwix Resources Joint Venture