



# The Sustainable Forestry Initiative®

## Development of the 2010-2014 SFI Standard

Standard Review Workshops

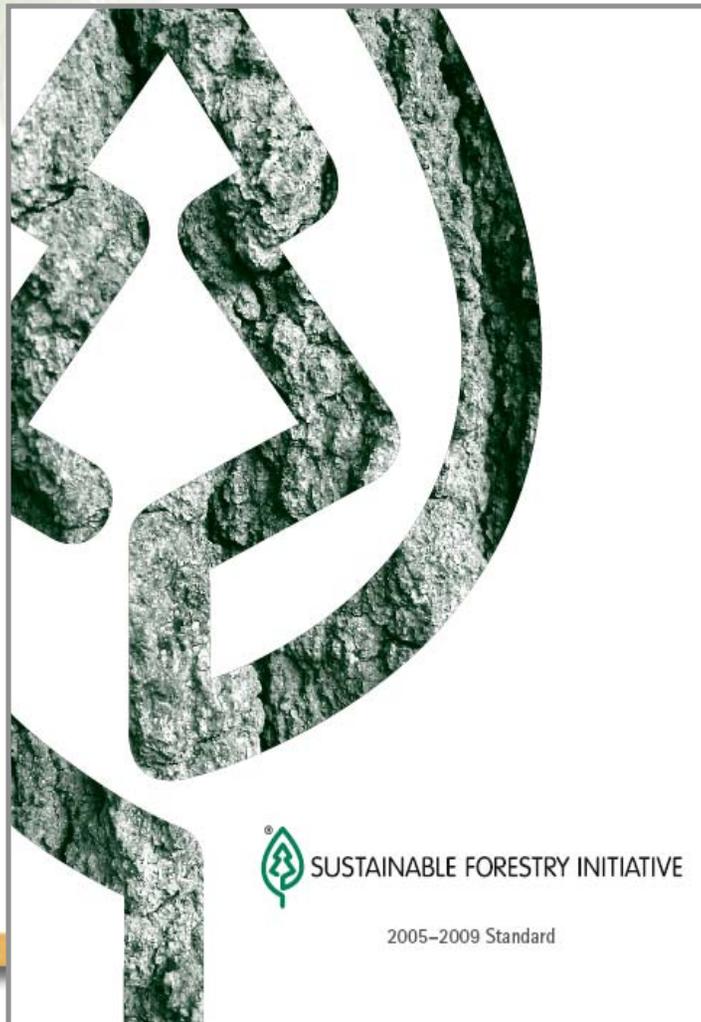


SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

*Good for you. Good for our forests.™*

# Antitrust Reminder

# Revisions process



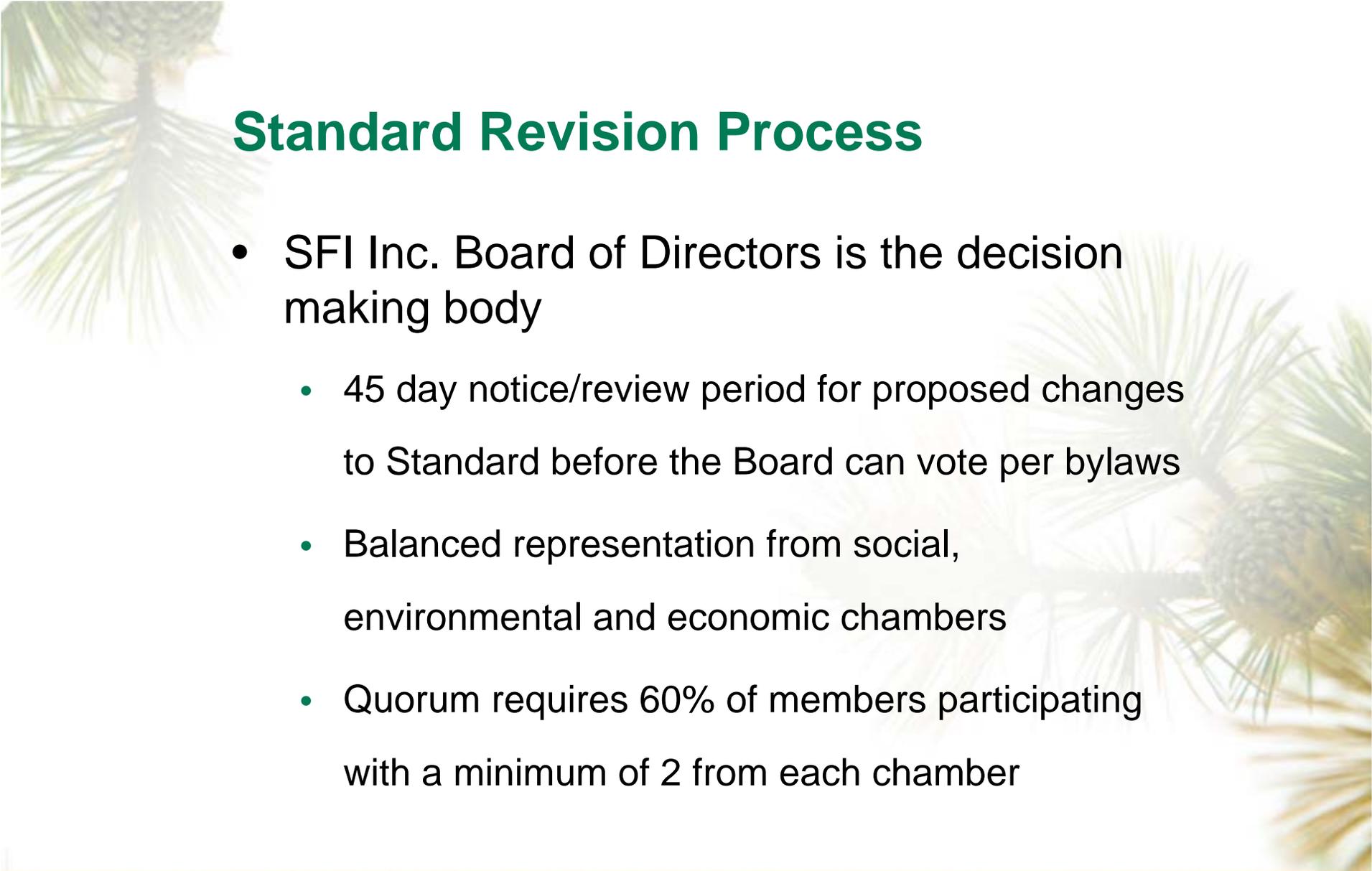
- The SFI Standard is revised every five years
- The SFI Standard was revised through a public comment and review process in 2001 and 2004 by the Sustainable Forestry Board
- Updated to reflect latest science, information, market needs

## SFI Standard Review

- Process approved by SFI Inc. Board in 2007
  - Longer time frame for review
    - Includes 2 open comment periods and 7 regional stakeholder workshops
- External Review Panel integral to review
  - Independent oversight and transparency
- First open comment period (60 days) began on June 2, 2008 and ended August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008
- Invitations to comment sent to over 2,000 individuals and organizations; also advertised by newsletter and press release
- Web based survey for written comments; all comments and analysis by the SFI Standard Review Task Force and Resources Committee are posted on the SFI Inc. website ([www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org))

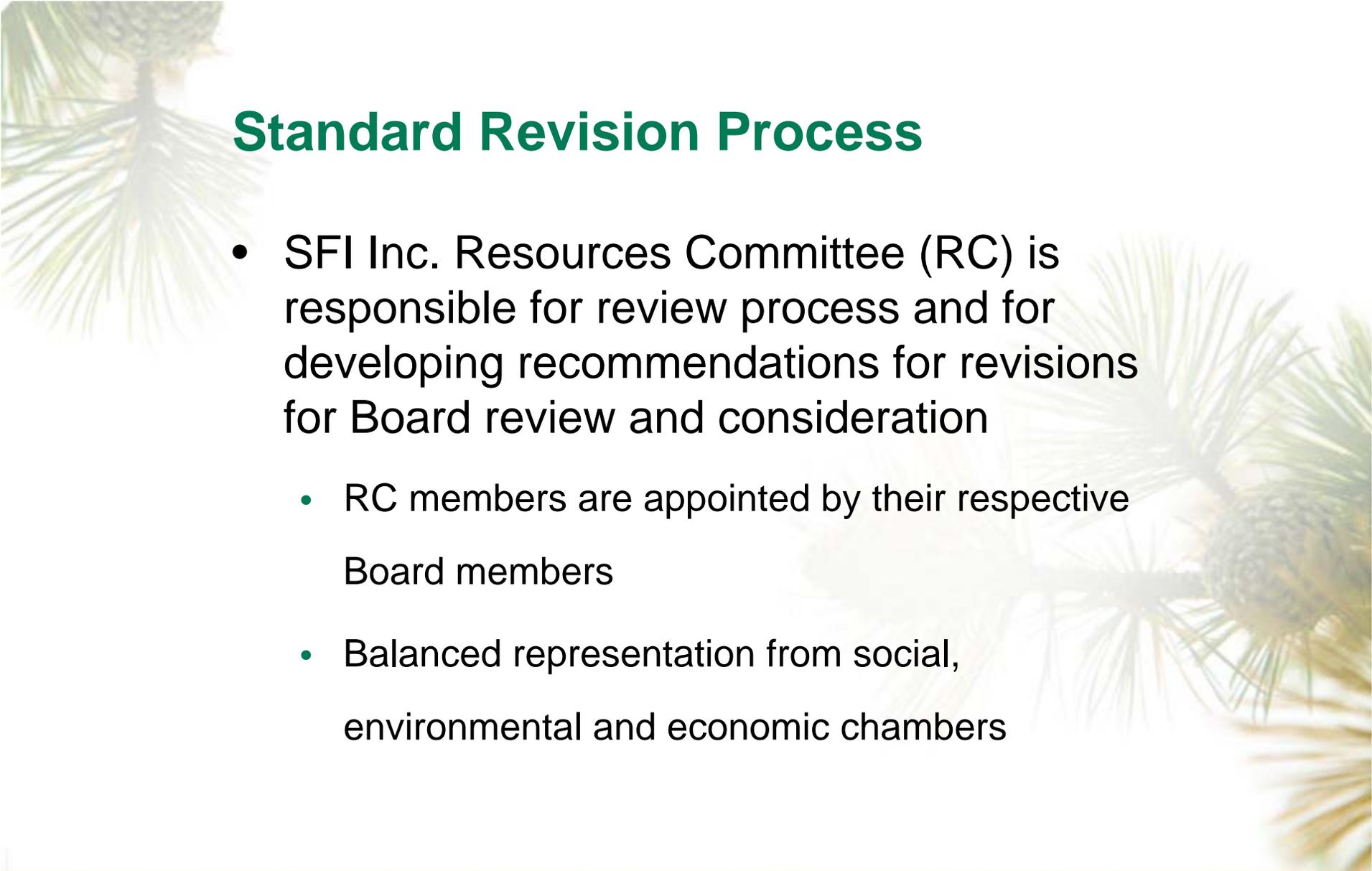
## SFI Standard Review

- Second open comment period (30 days) began January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and ends March 2, 2009
- Invitations to comment sent to over 2,000 individuals and organizations; also advertised by newsletter and press release
- Seven regional workshops for extended consultation
  - Feb 18 Sacramento, CA
  - Feb 19 Vancouver, BC
  - March 3 Minneapolis, MN
  - March 26 Charleston, SC
  - April 2 Little Rock, AR
  - April 7 Portland, ME
  - April 16 Montreal, Quebec



## Standard Revision Process

- SFI Inc. Board of Directors is the decision making body
  - 45 day notice/review period for proposed changes to Standard before the Board can vote per bylaws
  - Balanced representation from social, environmental and economic chambers
  - Quorum requires 60% of members participating with a minimum of 2 from each chamber



## Standard Revision Process

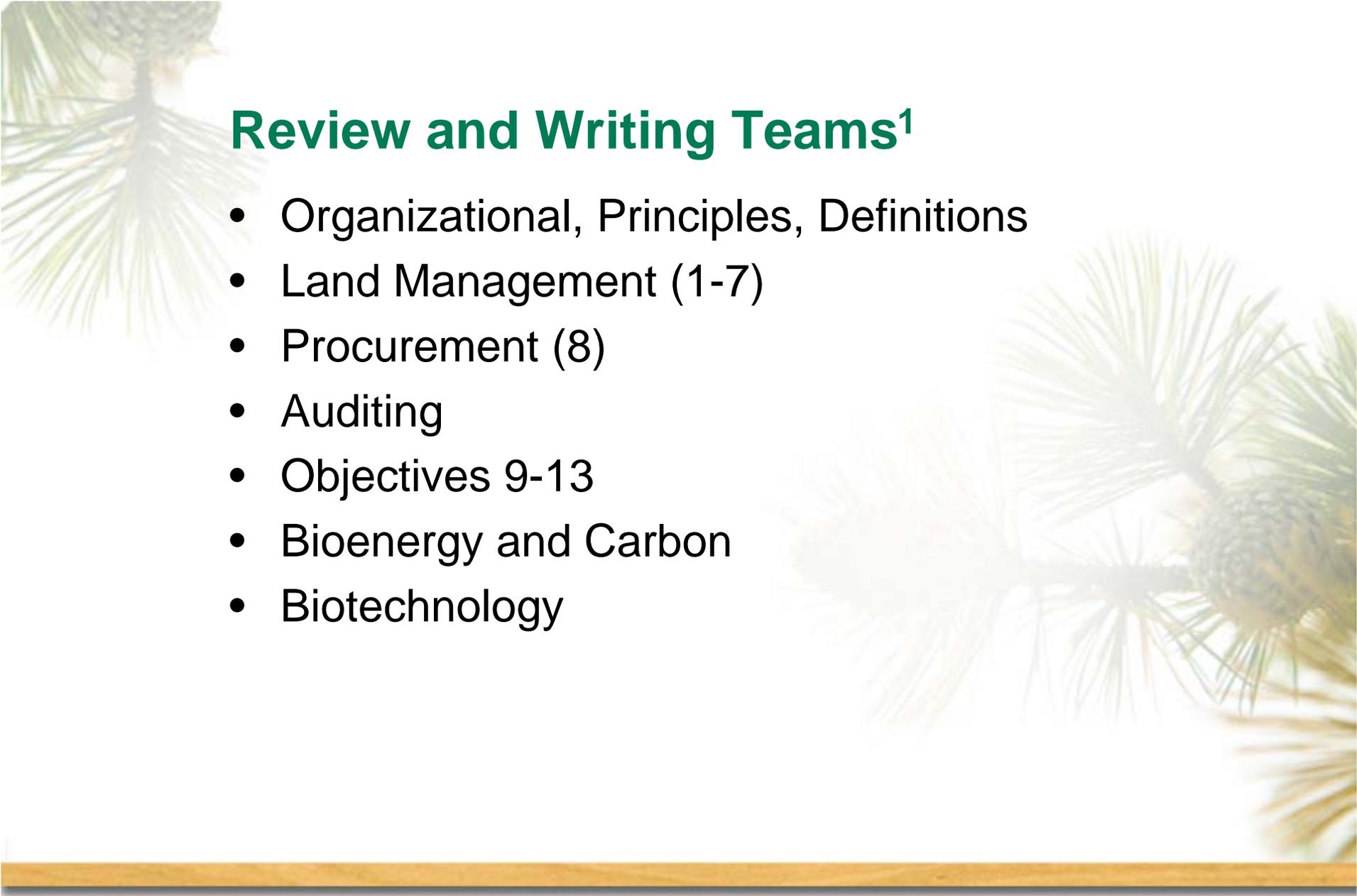
- SFI Inc. Resources Committee (RC) is responsible for review process and for developing recommendations for revisions for Board review and consideration
  - RC members are appointed by their respective Board members
  - Balanced representation from social, environmental and economic chambers



## SFI Standard Review Task Force<sup>1</sup>

- Chair, Joe Lawson, MWV
- Lena Tucker, Oregon Department of Forestry
- Scott Williamson, Wildlife Management Institute
- Bob Emory, Weyerhaeuser
- Mike Branch, Smurfit-Stone
- Rik Aikman, Buchanan Forest Products

Review Task Force reports to SFI Resources Committee



## Review and Writing Teams<sup>1</sup>

- Organizational, Principles, Definitions
- Land Management (1-7)
- Procurement (8)
- Auditing
- Objectives 9-13
- Bioenergy and Carbon
- Biotechnology

## External Review Panel

- 15 member volunteer scientific advisory panel to the SFI Inc. Board and Resources Committee
- Representatives from social, environmental, academic and public agencies
- Reviewed all comments, task force analysis, and proposed revisions to the SFI Standard
- ERP concluded the initial review was fair and credible-made suggestions for additional changes to the Resources Committee
- Will also review comments and analysis for second comment period

## Immediate Next Steps

- March – May. Analysis of written comments from second public comment period and workshop results by Review Task Force; preparation of draft 2010-2014 SFI Standard for Board review
- May 30<sup>th</sup>. Final draft sent to Board of Directors for 45 day review period
- July 14<sup>th</sup>. Board conference call to finalize revised 2010-2014 Standard
- Sept. 2010-2014 Standard released at annual conference
- Jan.1, 2010. Revised standard effective date
- Dec. 31, 2010. Program participants must be in conformance with all new elements of the 2010-2014 SFI Standard.



## Comment Review Criteria<sup>1</sup>

- *Improve the standard (practice of sustainable forestry)*
- *Use science and economics as guides*
- *Enhance credibility of the standard*
- *Consistent with national and international SFM assessment criteria*



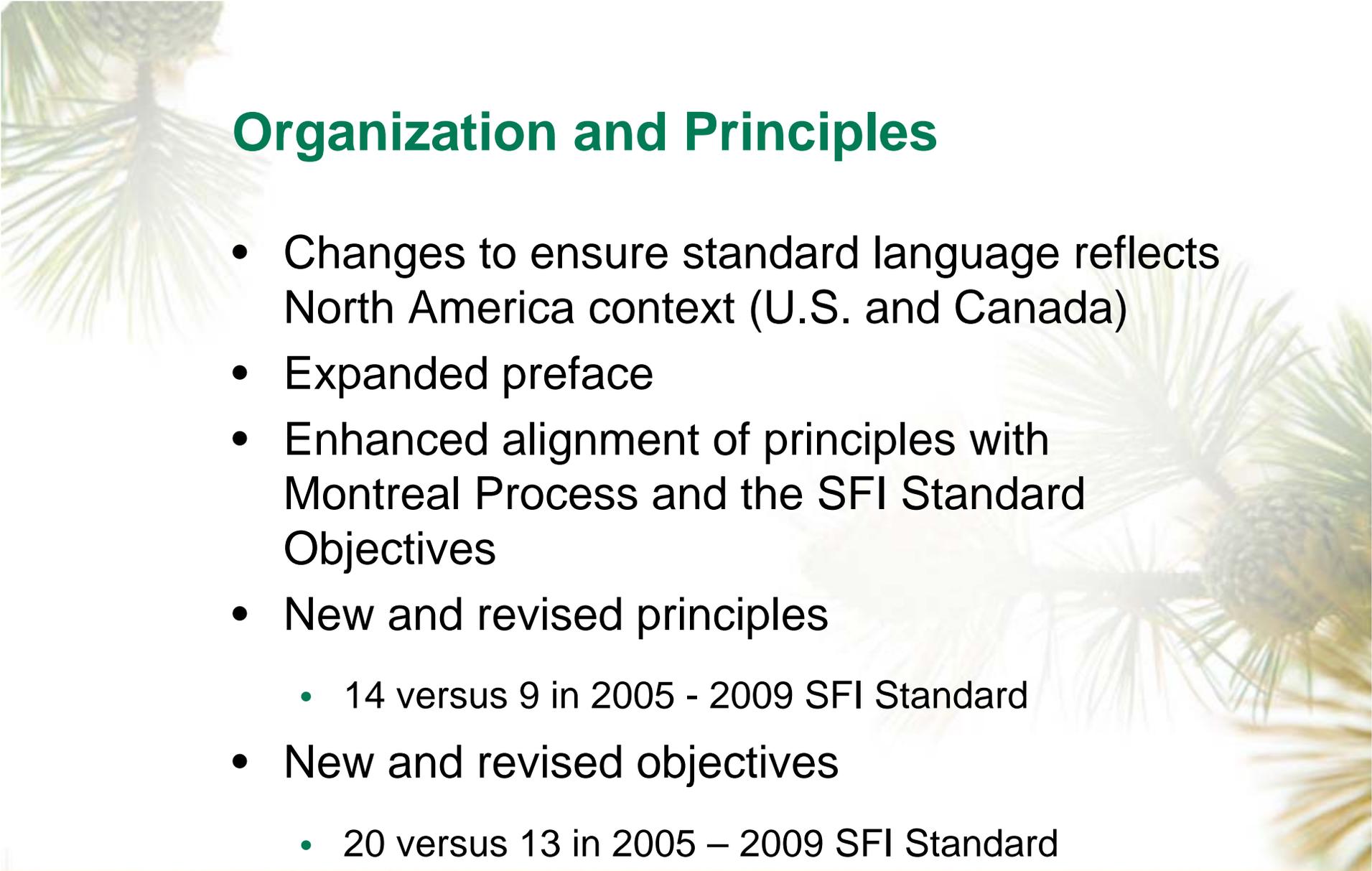
# Overview of Significant Changes



Draft 2010-2014 SFI Standard  
January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009



# Organization and Principles



## Organization and Principles

- Changes to ensure standard language reflects North America context (U.S. and Canada)
- Expanded preface
- Enhanced alignment of principles with Montreal Process and the SFI Standard Objectives
- New and revised principles
  - 14 versus 9 in 2005 - 2009 SFI Standard
- New and revised objectives
  - 20 versus 13 in 2005 – 2009 SFI Standard



## Principles

1. Sustainable Forestry (ecosystem services & carbon)
2. Forest Productivity and Health (combined 3,4, 5)
3. Protection of Water Resources (BMP conformance)
4. Protection of Biological Diversity (split from special sites)
5. Aesthetics and Recreation (recreation)
6. Protection of Special Sites (split from biological diversity)
7. Responsible Procurement Practices in N.A. (revised 2, added procurement and NA)
8. Avoidance of Controversial Sources Including Illegal Logging in Off-Shore Procurement (new)



## Principles

9. Legal Compliance

10. Research (new)

11. Training and Education (new)

12. Public Involvement (new)

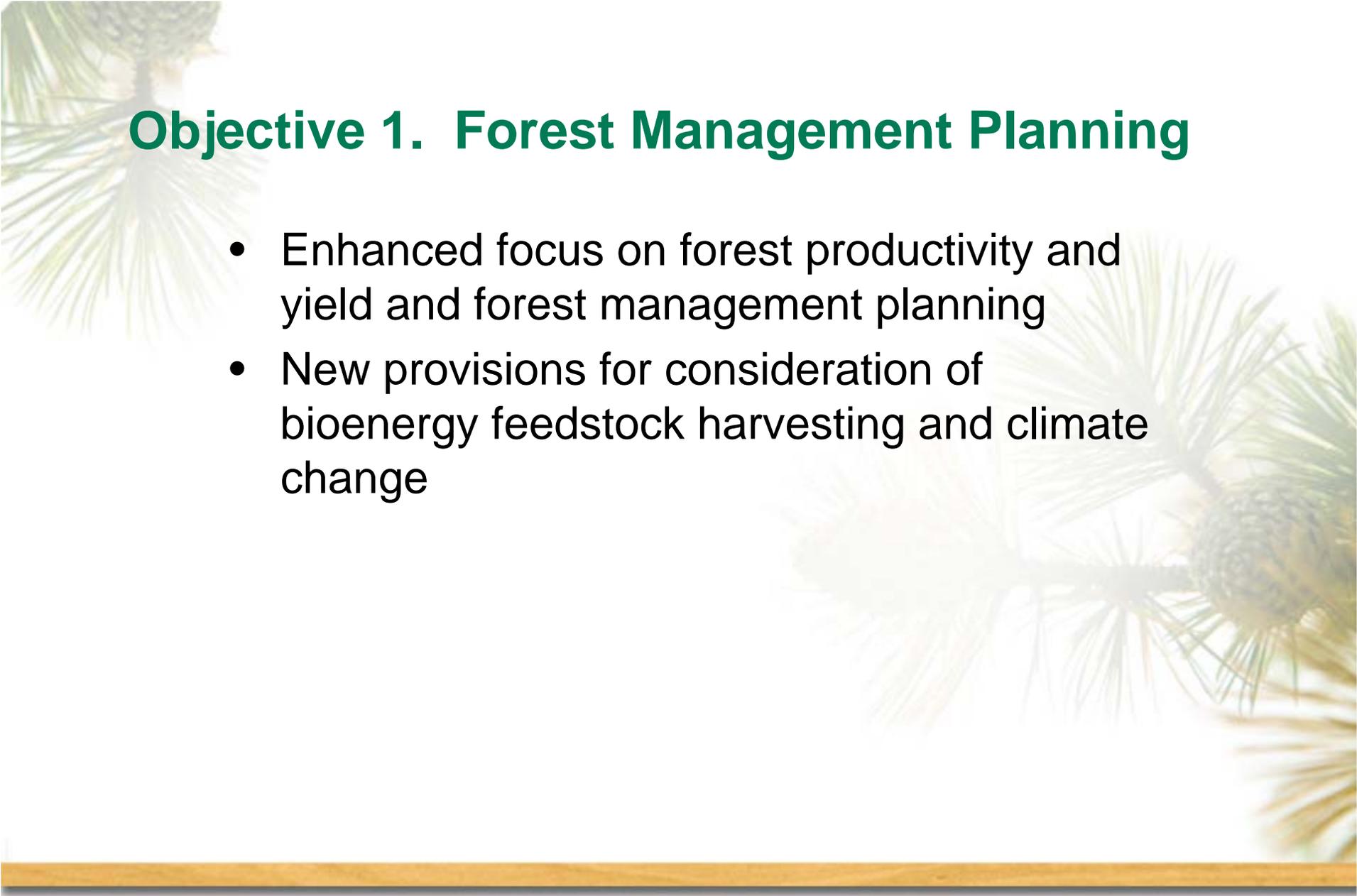
13. Transparency (new)

14. Continual Improvement



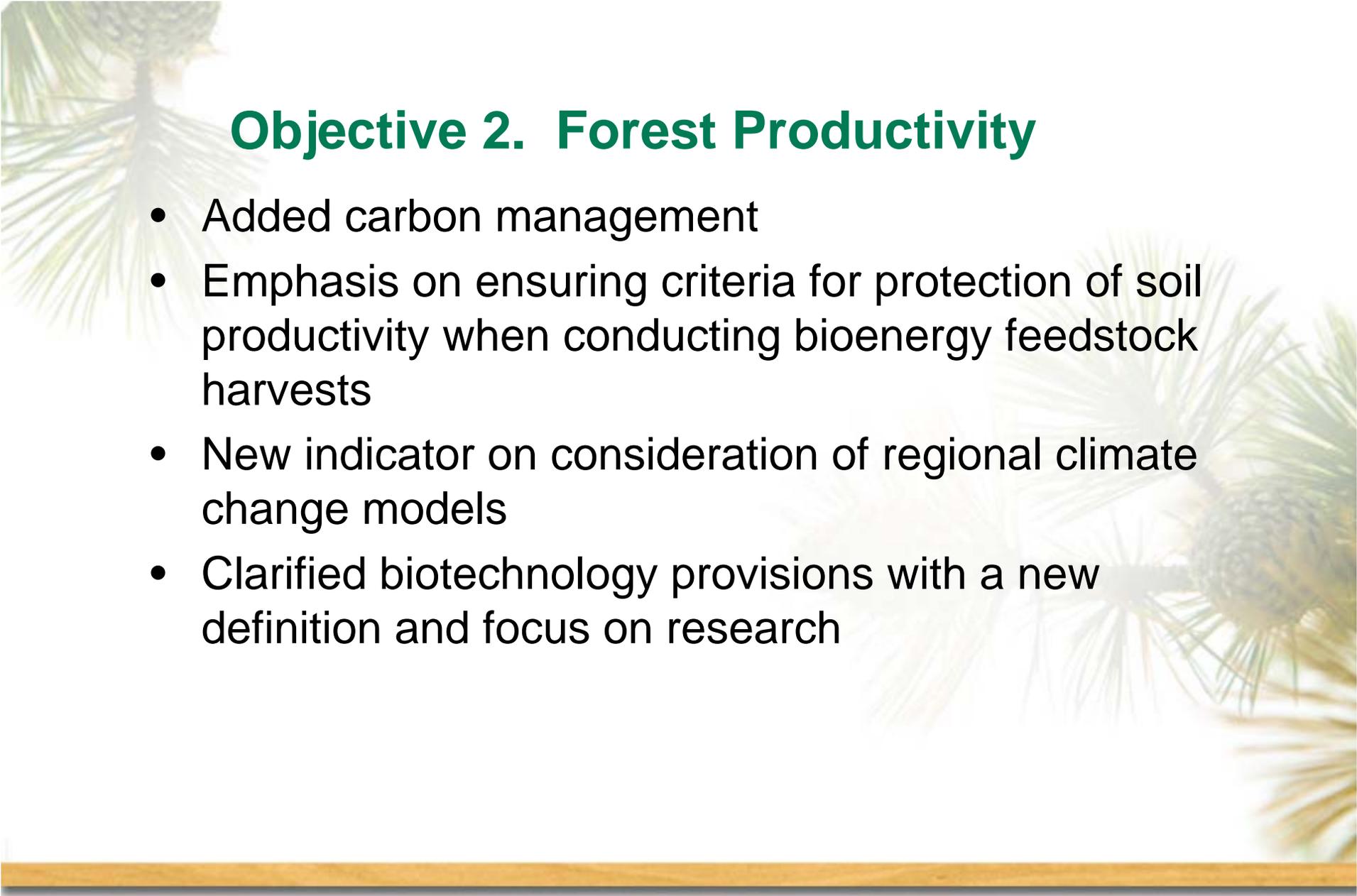


# Forest Management Objectives



## Objective 1. Forest Management Planning

- Enhanced focus on forest productivity and yield and forest management planning
- New provisions for consideration of bioenergy feedstock harvesting and climate change



## Objective 2. Forest Productivity

- Added carbon management
- Emphasis on ensuring criteria for protection of soil productivity when conducting bioenergy feedstock harvests
- New indicator on consideration of regional climate change models
- Clarified biotechnology provisions with a new definition and focus on research

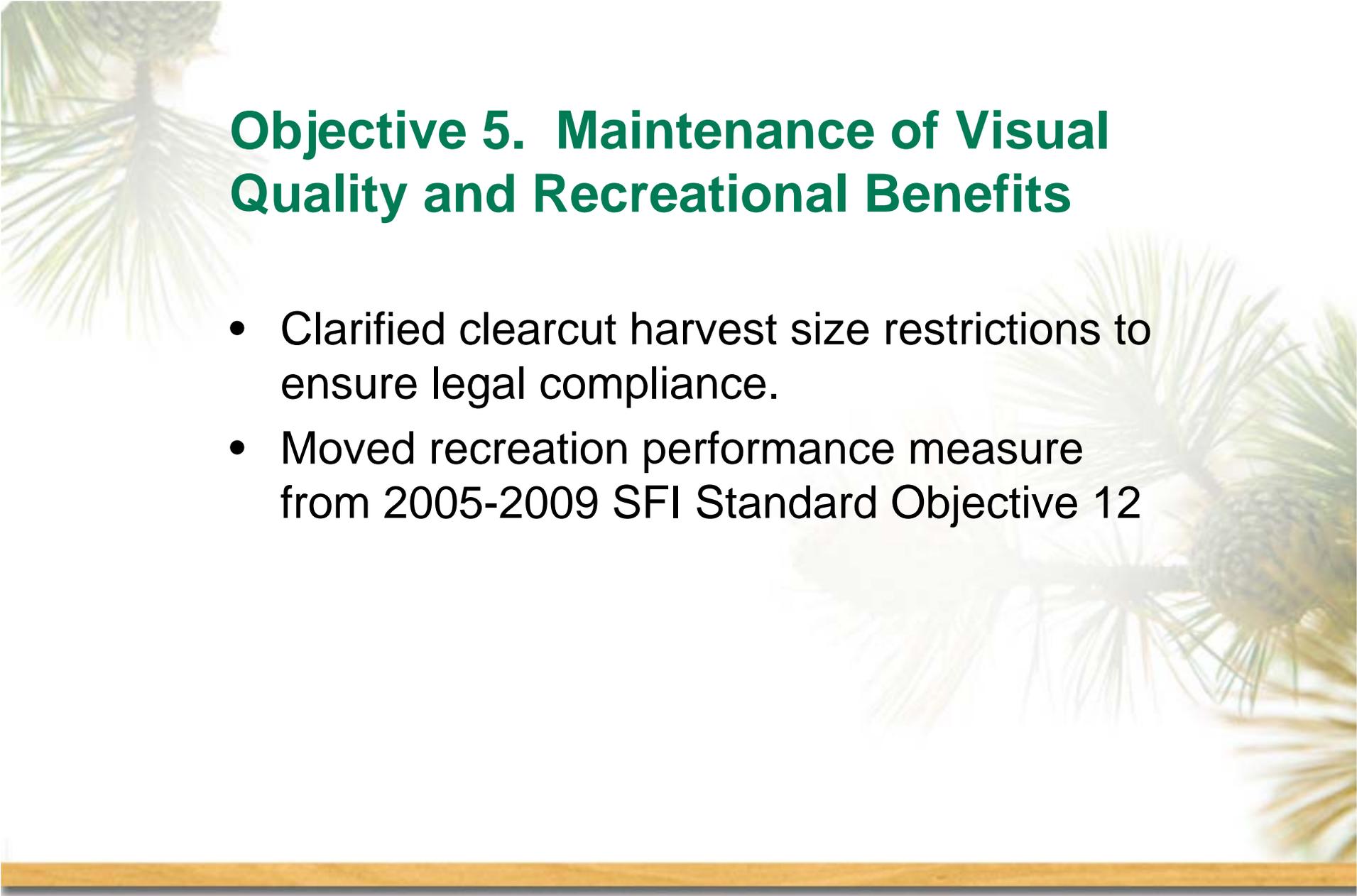


## Objective 3. Protection and Maintenance of Water Resources

- Emphasis on harvesting system and utilization levels considerations in developing and implementing riparian protection measures
- Revised protection of vernal pools language (of ecological significance vs. of significant size)

## Objective 4. Conservation of Biological Diversity including Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value

- Clarified provisions for Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value
- Emphasis on wildlife habitat considerations for bioenergy feedstock harvests
- Added best scientific information criteria and expanded list of wildlife habitat elements to include stumps and pollinator habitat
- Added new indicator for consideration of climate change impacts on wildlife habitats and conservation of biological diversity



## Objective 5. Maintenance of Visual Quality and Recreational Benefits

- Clarified clearcut harvest size restrictions to ensure legal compliance.
- Moved recreation performance measure from 2005-2009 SFI Standard Objective 12

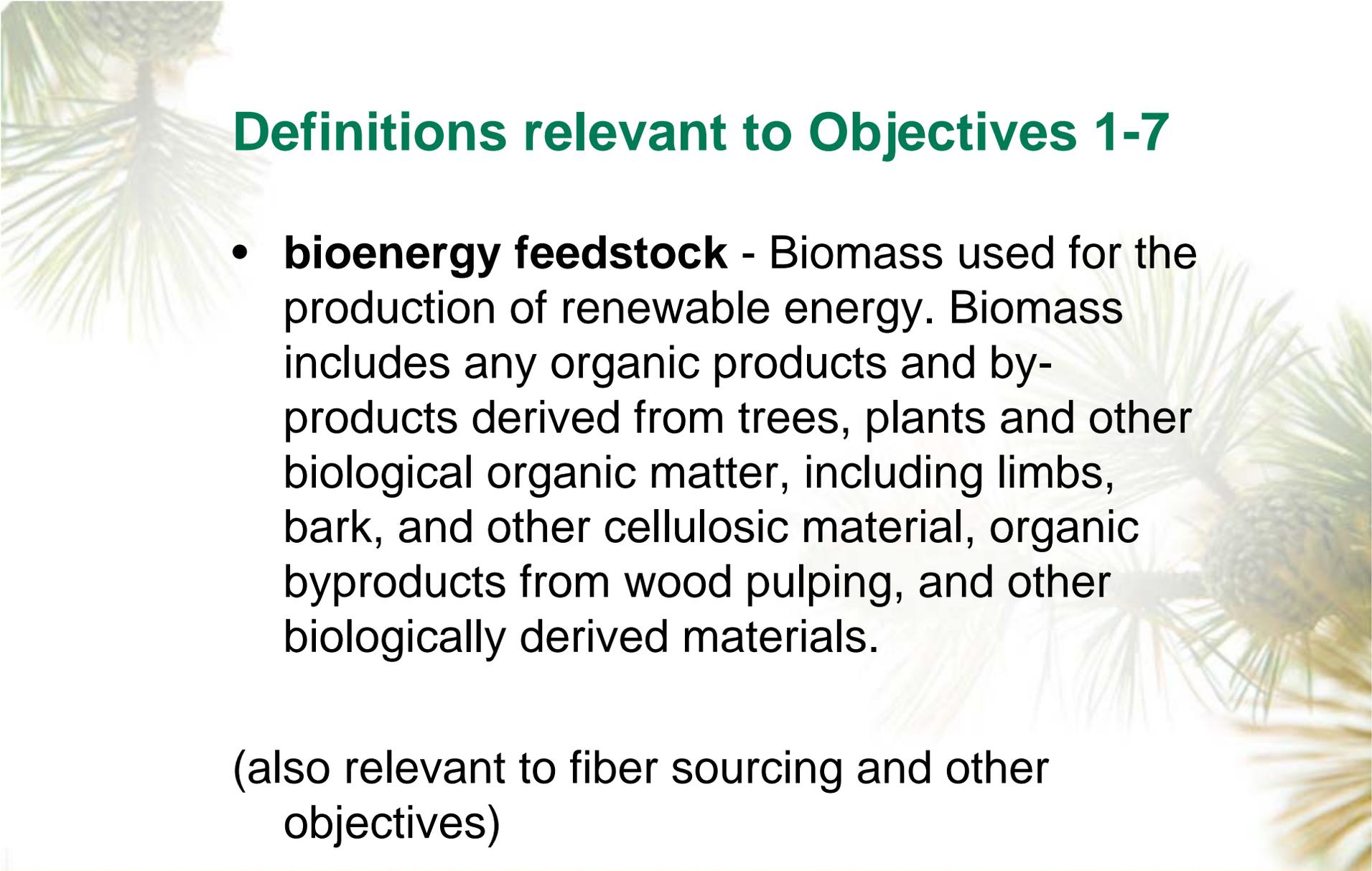


## Objective 6. Protection of Special Sites

- No changes

## Objective 7. Efficient Use of Forest Resources

- Residue management language revised to include consideration of economic, social, environmental factors and other utilization needs
- New language regarding exploration of markets for underutilized species and low-grade wood and alternative markets such as bioenergy and carbon offsets



## Definitions relevant to Objectives 1-7

- **bioenergy feedstock** - Biomass used for the production of renewable energy. Biomass includes any organic products and by-products derived from trees, plants and other biological organic matter, including limbs, bark, and other cellulosic material, organic byproducts from wood pulping, and other biologically derived materials.

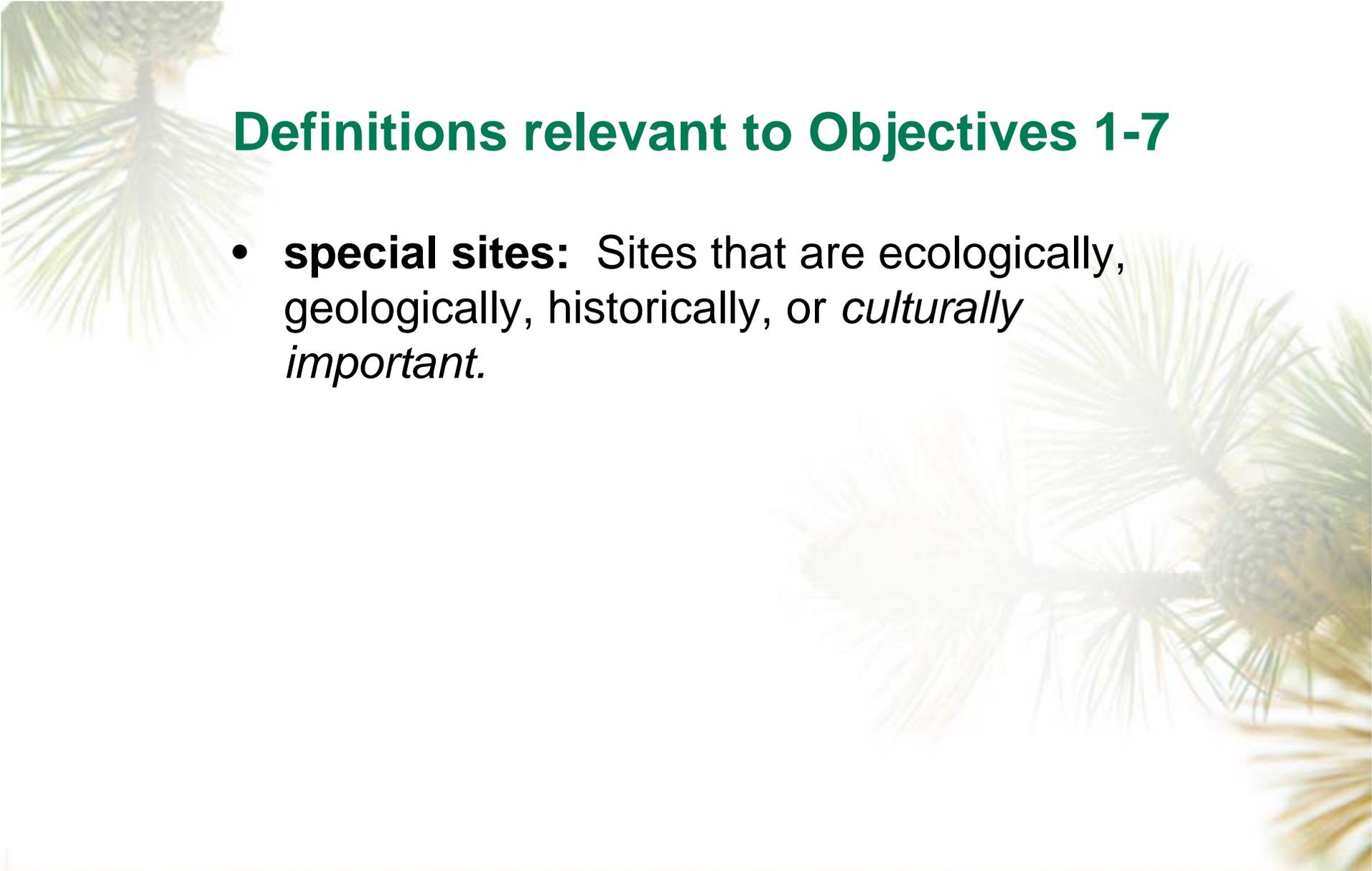
(also relevant to fiber sourcing and other objectives)

## Definitions relevant to Objectives 1-7

- **culturally important:** having significance for or being representative of human activities or beliefs (e.g., areas such as cemeteries, sacred sites, battlefields)
- **invasive exotic plants and animals:** Species introduced from another country or geographic region outside its natural range that may have fewer natural population controls in the new environment, becoming a pest or nuisance species.
- **long-term:** Extending over a relatively long time period-for the *SFI Standard* this means the length of one forest management rotation or longer.

## Definitions relevant to Objectives 1-7

- **forest tree biotechnology:** As commonly used, forest tree biotechnology encompasses structural and functional studies of genes and genomes (including development and application of genetic markers); various methods of vegetative reproduction such as micropropagation, tissue culture, and somatic embryogenesis; and genetic engineering (GE), which is the physical manipulation and asexual insertion of genes into organisms.
- **varietal seedlings:** genetically identical individuals produced through vegetative reproduction methods, such as micropropagation, tissue culture or somatic embryogenesis.



## Definitions relevant to Objectives 1-7

- **special sites:** Sites that are ecologically, geologically, historically, or *culturally important*.



# Fiber Sourcing Objectives

## 2010-2014 Fiber Sourcing Objectives

- Objective 8 from the 2005-2009 SFI Standard contained all fiber sourcing requirements
- New approach uses elements from the old Objective 8 and new Objectives for emphasis on key fiber sourcing issues
- New approach has 6 fiber sourcing Objectives (8-13)
  - Landowner outreach, use of harvesting and logging professionals, Best Management Practices, conservation of biological diversity, and avoidance of illegal logging and controversial sources

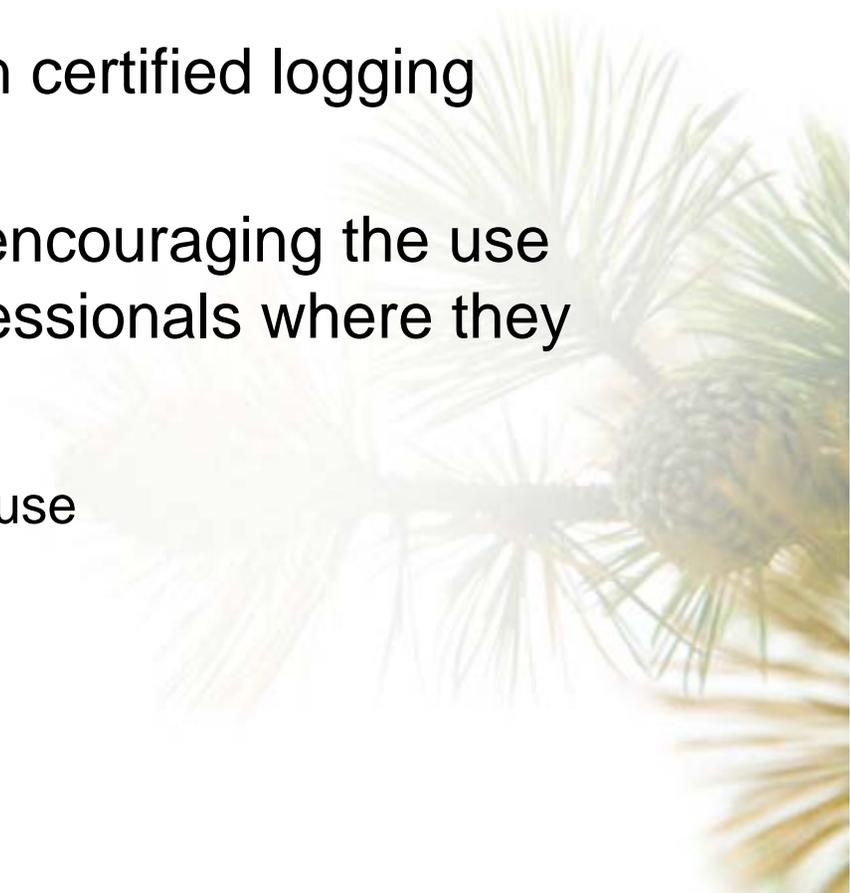


## Objective 8. Landowner Outreach

- Additions to information or services supplied to family forest owners
  - Afforestation
  - Residue management
  - Invasive exotic plants and animals
  - Special sites
- New indicator to encourage landowner participation in forest management certification programs



## Objective 9. Use of Forest Management and Harvesting Professionals

- Added new definition on certified logging professionals
  - Added new provisions encouraging the use of certified logging professionals where they are available
    - Program to promote the use
    - Maintenance of lists
- 

## Objective 10. Adherence to Best Management Practices

- Strengthened provisions for using qualified logging professionals (QLPs)
  - Program for purchase of raw material from QLPs
- Purchased stumpage harvests require conformance with BMPs
  - Added emphasis for bioenergy feedstock harvests
- New indicator requiring the use of BMPs to be included in contracts for raw materials purchases
- Removed requirement to evaluate the results of promoting reforestation

## Objective 11. Promote Conservation of Biological Diversity, Biodiversity Hotspots and Major Tropical Wilderness Areas

- Elevated to Objective level for added emphasis for this important issue
- Added Alliance for Zero Extinction as a resource for development of programs to promote conservation of biological diversity when procuring raw material from areas outside the United States and Canada
- Illegal logging provisions moved to new Objective 12.

## Objective 12. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Illegal Logging

- Elevated to Objective level for added emphasis for this important issue
- Provisions in Objective 12 were formerly in performance measure 8.5
- Conservation of biological diversity for procurement outside the United States and Canada provisions were used to create the new Objective 11
- Fully consistent with new fiber sourcing, chain of custody and labeling requirements (Annexes 1 & 2)

## Objective 13. Avoidance of Controversial Sources including Fiber Sourced from Areas without Effective Social Laws

- Elevated to Objective level for added emphasis for this important issue
- New definition on controversial sources based on provisions in performance measure 8.6 in the 2005-2009 SFI Standard
- Fully consistent with new fiber sourcing, chain of custody and labeling requirements (Annexes 1 & 2)



## Definitions relevant to Objectives 8-13

- **Alliance for Zero Extinction:** a global initiative of biodiversity conservation organizations, aims to prevent extinctions by identifying and safeguarding key sites where species are in imminent danger of disappearing. The goal of the Alliance is to create a front line of defense against extinction by eliminating threats and restoring habitat to allow species populations to rebound.

## Definitions relevant to Objectives 8-13

- **certified logging professional:** A person with specialized skills in timber harvesting gained through experience or formal training who has successfully completed *wood producer* training programs recognized by *SFI Implementation Committees* and has successfully completed, and is a member in good standing, of a logger certification program.

## Definitions relevant to Objectives 8-13

- **controversial sources:** Use of *controversial sources* are not allowed in SFI-labeled products. *Controversial sources* include *illegal logging* and *fiber sourced from areas without effective social laws*.

**illegal logging:** the theft of timber or logs and cutting in parks, reserves, or other similar areas where otherwise precluded by law. See Annex 1 (Appendix 2) and Annex 2 (Appendix 4) for SFI Inc.'s policy on *illegal logging*.

**fiber sourced from areas without effective social laws:** The United States and Canada have a strong legal framework. Fiber from countries without effective laws addressing the following will need a risk assessment:

1. workers' health and safety;
2. fair labor practices;
3. indigenous peoples' rights;
4. antidiscrimination and anti-harassment measures;
5. prevailing wages; and
6. workers' right to organize.

## Definitions relevant to Objectives 8-13

**qualified logging professional:** A person with specialized skills in timber harvesting gained through experience or formal training who has successfully completed *wood producer* training programs recognized by *SFI Implementation Committees* as meeting the spirit and intent of *performance measure* under Objective 8 of the *SFI Standard*.

- a. For a logging crew to be considered trained, each crew must operate under the direction of an individual, with on-site responsibility, who has completed the *SIC* approved state or provincial logger training program.
  
- b. All of the components of a training program could take several years to carry out, determining the point at which a logger is considered a "*qualified logging professional*" should be based on an individual logger's commitment to the program. That is, if a logger completes all the components or modules offered in a given year, that logger should be considered as a "*qualified logging professional*." If all available components or modules are not completed, then the logger is no longer considered trained until all available components are completed.



# Forest Management & Fiber Sourcing Objectives

## Objective 14. Legal and Regulatory Compliance

- Added social
- Changed “Commitment to comply” to “Compliance with”
- Biotechnology provisions moved to Research (new Objective 15)
- Added new indicator requiring “respect protected areas identified through government processes”

## Objective 15. Forestry, Research, Science and Technology

- Clarified that SICs can play a role in meeting research requirements
- Clarified that research funded from taxes specific to forestry can help program participants meet requirements.
- Expanded the definition of relevant research to include environmental benefits and performance of forest products
- Expanded list of issues that can be researched to include ecological impacts of bioenergy feedstock harvesting, climate change, social, forest operations efficiencies and economics, energy efficiency, life cycle analysis, and avoidance of illegal logging and controversial sources
- Clarified forest tree biotechnology research provisions

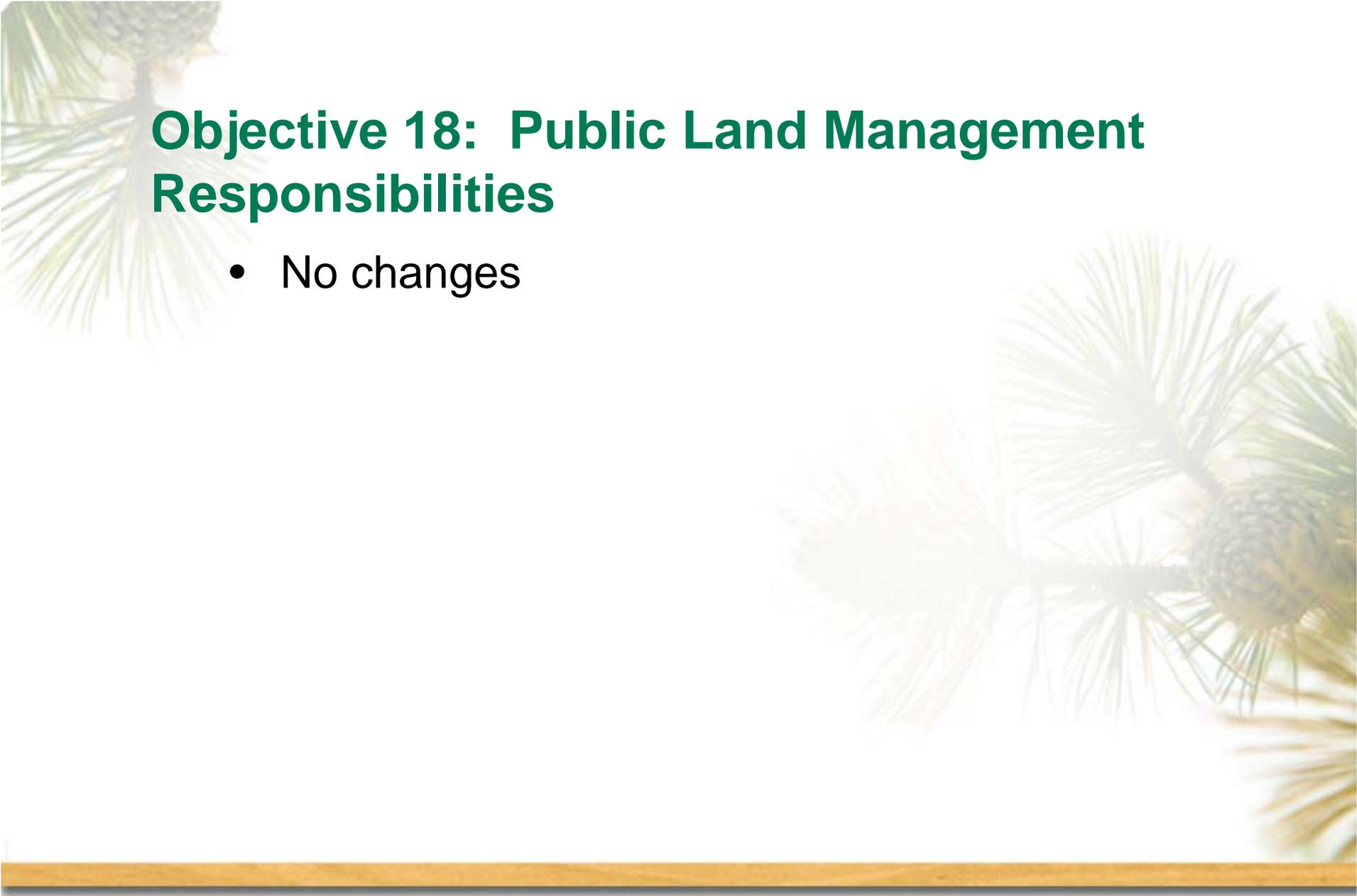


## Objective 16. Training and Education

- Additions to wood producers training requirements
    - Invasive exotic plants and animals
    - Special Sites
    - Awareness of emerging technologies and markets such as bioenergy feedstock removal and carbon offsets
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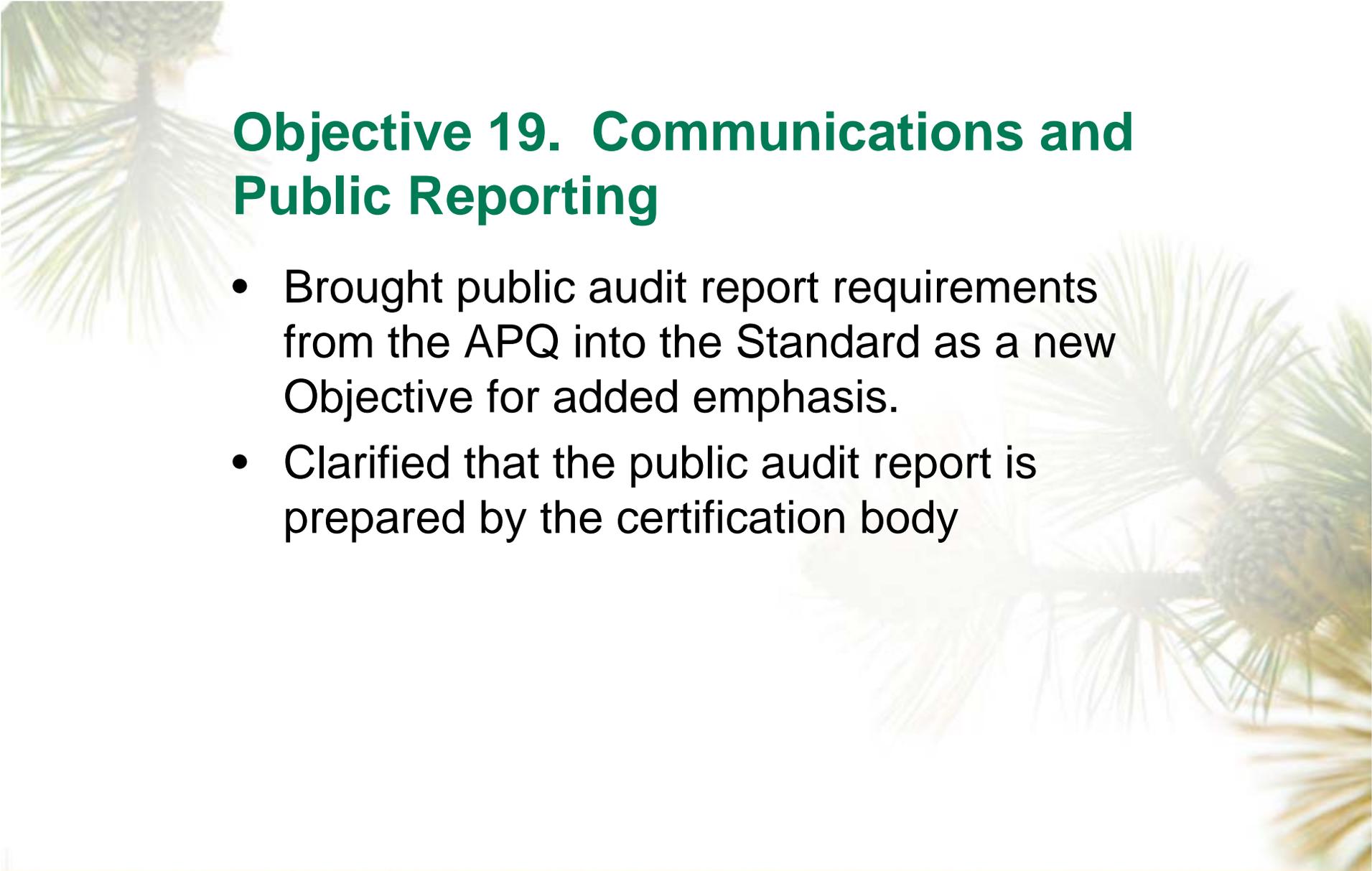
## Objective 17. Community Involvement in the Practice of *Sustainable Forestry*

- Expanded listing of stakeholders to engage
  - Conservation organizations, indigenous peoples and governments and community groups
- Clarified that landowner education materials requirements can be met by a number of means, including websites, workshops, etc.
- Removed indicator that required support for SICs to do broad public outreach (e.g. paid advertisements)
- Moved recreation indicator to Objective 5



## Objective 18: Public Land Management Responsibilities

- No changes



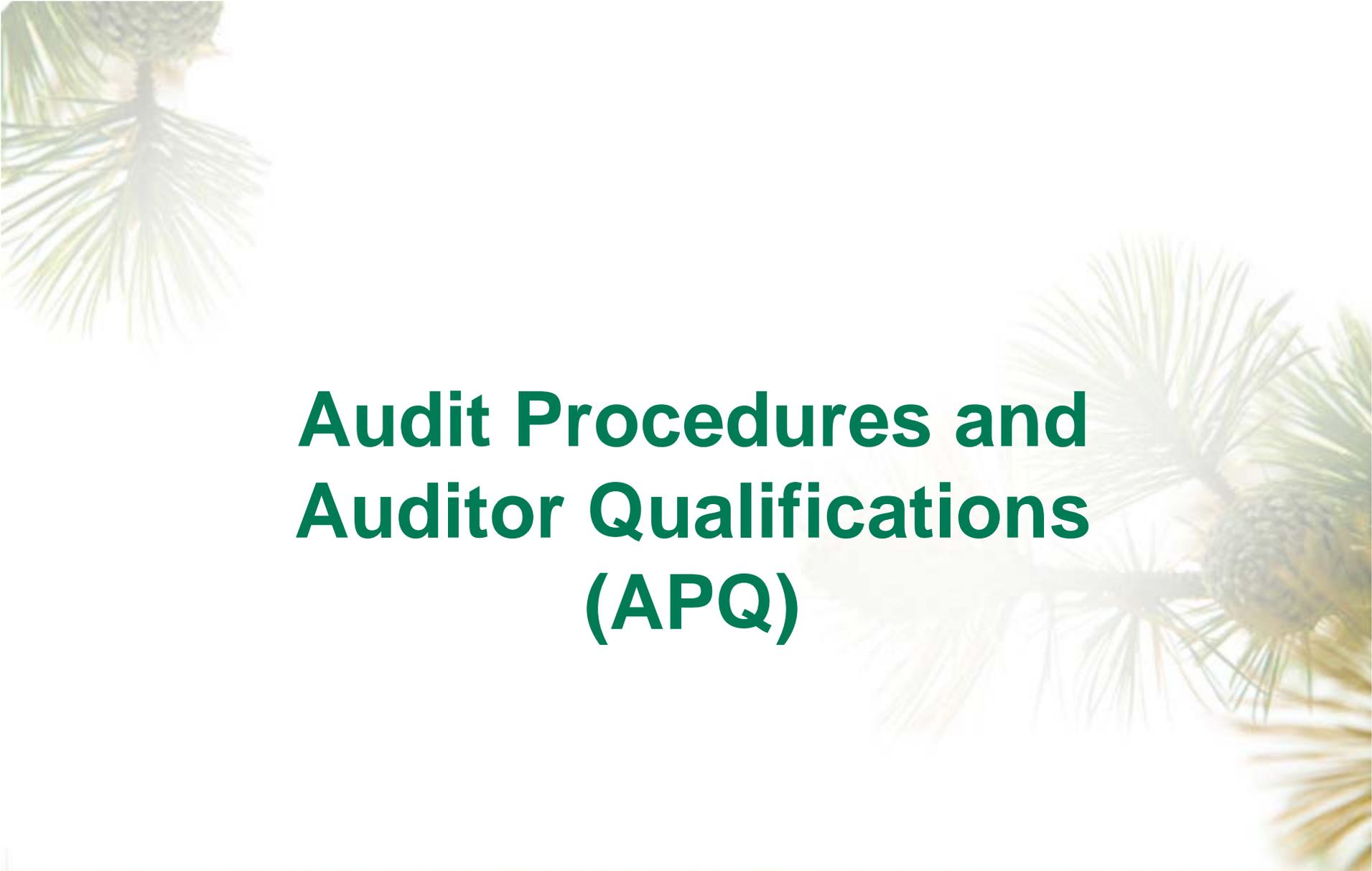
## Objective 19. Communications and Public Reporting

- Brought public audit report requirements from the APQ into the Standard as a new Objective for added emphasis.
- Clarified that the public audit report is prepared by the certification body

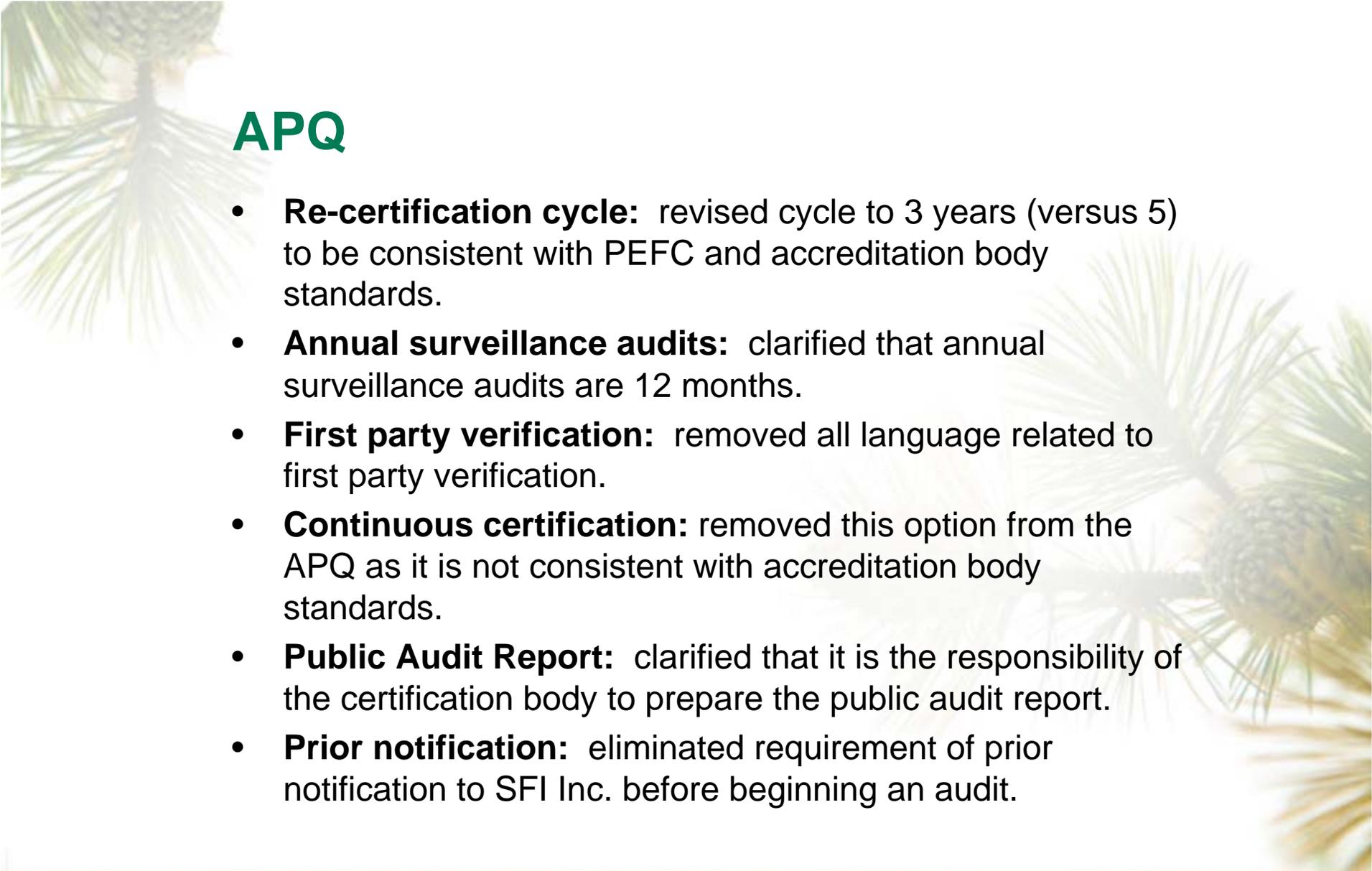


## Objective 20. Management Review and Continual Improvement

- No changes
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# Audit Procedures and Auditor Qualifications (APQ)



## APQ

- **Re-certification cycle:** revised cycle to 3 years (versus 5) to be consistent with PEFC and accreditation body standards.
- **Annual surveillance audits:** clarified that annual surveillance audits are 12 months.
- **First party verification:** removed all language related to first party verification.
- **Continuous certification:** removed this option from the APQ as it is not consistent with accreditation body standards.
- **Public Audit Report:** clarified that it is the responsibility of the certification body to prepare the public audit report.
- **Prior notification:** eliminated requirement of prior notification to SFI Inc. before beginning an audit.



Thank you for your participation and input!