

November 2026

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the SFI Conservation Quarterly Newsletter: The Quadrat,

This past summer and fall, the SFI Conservation Team traveled across the United States and Canada to participate in events including Climate Week NYC, the Society of American Foresters Convention, and gatherings hosted by the International Boreal Forest Research Association and the Alberta Forest Products Association.

One theme emerged consistently: **the forest sector is at an inflection point, and forest certification is essential to advance the responsible stewardship of forest resources to create and support future market demand**. SFI certification helps organizations credibly communicate the many benefits of sustainable forest management, from strengthening climate resilience and sustaining wildlife habitat to supporting local economies and providing renewable resources.

As we survey the landscape to identify the best strategies for our network, this quarterly dispatch will spotlight key partnerships, share new resources, highlight upcoming workshops, and share funding opportunities.

Thank you for your continued stewardship,
The SFI Conservation Team

Boundary Lines: Grantee Spotlights

SFI has financially supported a variety of organizations across the United States and Canada as they implement Climate Smart Forestry practices, including Indigenous groups, NGOs, and companies certified to the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard. Our team has been conducting site visits to better understand the context, challenges, and opportunities associated with this work.

United States: Washington- Quinault Indian Nation; Montana- The Nature Conservancy & Green Diamond
Chase, Greg, and Jianna visited recipients from the first round of funding for the *Advancing Carbon Stewardship Practices for Large Landowners in the United States* project in Montana and Washington. They saw firsthand how the project supports each organization's long-term mission and on-the-ground forest management. Funded practices include reducing fuel loads through non-commercial thinning and reintroducing fire to the landscape.

Canada: British Columbia- Nk'Mip Forestry; Ontario- Wahkohtowin Development
SFI staff, including Lauren, Rachel, Andrew, and Jeffrey participated in field tours with recipients of the *SFI Indigenous-Led Climate Smart Forestry Grant*. While visiting Nk'Mip Forestry in British Columbia, the group saw how using post-fire interventions, including removing fire-killed trees and replanting with fire resilient trees and plants, are restoring ecosystem function and reducing future wildfire risk. The visit to Wahkohtowin in Chapleau, Ontario saw how they are expanding its Herbicide Alternative Program and developing protocols for pre-harvest vegetation assessments to help maintain more above-ground biomass and habitat values.









Field Notes

SFI Regional Climate Change Risk Summaries: These reports for the major forested regions of the United States were developed by SFI staff to support SFI-Certified Organizations to understand the climate change risks facing their forests. Reports for Regional Climate Change Risks for Canadian Forests will be released soon.

SFI Biodiversity in Fiber Sourcing: Amazon has just released a video highlighting the work of SFI, NatureServe, Domtar, Weyerhaeuser and others on an innovative habitat-based approach to protecting imperiled biodiversity in working forests.

SFI Conservation Values Viewer: This new web-based tool allows SFI certified organizations in the US to securely view a range of species and ecosystem values at site and landscape scales across their own footprints. The initial suite of indicators, such as species extinction risk and ecosystem condition, are relevant to conservation objectives in SFI standards and emerging nature-related disclosure frameworks. Stay tuned for a launch notice before the end of the year. To learn more, reach out to SFI Chief Scientist, Healy Hamilton.

SFI at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity COP17: Chief Conservation Officer, Lauren Cooper, and Chief Scientist, Healy Hamilton, attended COP 17 in Yerevan, Armenia. Read this recent interview with Healy about COP17 and the role SFI is playing on the international stage.

CTrees Forest Intelligence Supply Shed Platform: SFI partnered with CTrees to develop a proof of concept to assess integrating forest resilience data into a supply shed evaluation for existing and potential mill infrastructure. This is the first phase of a multi-phase project so feedback is welcome.

Forest Innovation Platform: This new platform has been developed by American Forests and core partners, including SFI, to be a one-stop shop for forestland owners across the United States to understand the historical and projected climate trends for the forests they manage. This directly ties to the SFI 2022 Forest Management Standard Objective 9.1.1.

Forest Analytics for Carbon Tracking (FACT): FACT is a public-use digital platform that solves the real, growing challenge that reliable forest sector carbon data is hard to access. Landowners and businesses face increasing pressure to report carbon data, but what exists today is fragmented, inconsistent, and costly to compile. FACT brings standardized U.S. forest and harvested wood product carbon data into one accessible, transparent place.

Upcoming Events

SFI is hosting a biodiversity-focused webinar series to share practical approaches, research, and resources that can support biodiversity conservation in forest management.

Join our next webinars:

Fire as an Ecological Forest Management Tool in Michigan Forests
December 1, 2:00-3:00 p.m. ET | Presenters: Michigan Natural Features Inventory

This webinar will share modeling methods and field results for identifying and prioritizing fire-dependent ecosystems across SFI-certified Michigan state forests and how the approach can inform forest management across the Great Lakes region. Open to all - most relevant to geography of Michigan, Great Lakes, and Ontario.
Register Now

Improving Biodiversity Outcomes in Fiber Sourcing
December 8, 3:00-4:30 p.m. ET | Presenters: Weyerhaeuser, Nature Serve, Mississippi SIC

We will present the latest results in an ongoing effort to develop a practical approach for translating complex biodiversity data into actionable information in the fiber sourcing supply chain. Using expert knowledge on habitat preferences for imperiled species, the “Priority Habitats” approach has now been applied to the entire state of MS. Learn how it was developed, how it facilitates conservation of Forests with Exceptional Conservation Value, and the new logger and landowner training materials it has informed. The last 30 minutes will be a southeast-focused discussion for the future of this approach in the region.
Register Now

SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative Webinar Series
The team has a dedicated series of webinars on Climate Smart Forestry. Visit our events page to explore past webinars, upcoming events, and subscribe to the SFI CSF Initiative mailing list.

SFI Climate Smart Forestry Grant Request for Proposals Information Session
January 15, 1:00-2:00pm ET
Presenters: SFI

Join SFI for an information session to learn about a funding opportunity to advance climate-informed management practices for large landowners in the Lake States and Northwest U.S. SFI is implementing these awards as part of the SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative. During this information session, we will provide information about focal management practices, the request for proposals, the application process and interface, eligibility and requirements, and have time for Q&A.
Register Now



Funding Opportunities

SFI Carbon Stewardship Grants: The second round of a request for proposals will be made available for large forestland owners in the lake states and northwest United States in early 2027. We will be holding an information session on January 15 at 1pm ET. For more information, reach out to Chase Cook.

US Endowment for Forests and Communities Funding Opportunity: Through the Markets Matter Regional Engagement Request for Proposals (RFP), the Endowment anticipates awarding approximately $50,000 to each selected organization. Funding will support regional stakeholder engagement to identify priority needs, implementation partners, and investment opportunities for low-value, small-diameter and residual wood fiber.



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