



SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

SFI-00001

Position: Conservation Programs Intern
Status: Temporary
Salary: Paid, Stipend

Supervisor: Manager, Conservation Partnerships
Location: Ottawa or alternative Canada location
Timing: Spring/Summer 2020, dates flexible

The [Sustainable Forestry Initiative](#)[®] Inc. (SFI) advances sustainability through forest-focused collaborations. We are an independent, non-profit organization that demonstrates our commitment to forests through our work in [standards](#), [conservation](#), [education](#), and [community](#). SFI works with the forest sector, conservation groups, academics, researchers, brand owners, resource professionals, landowners, educators, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, and governments to achieve a vision of a world that values and benefits from sustainably managed forests. More than 370 million acres/150 million hectares of forestland is certified to the SFI Forest Management Standard. These lands stretch from Canada's boreal forest to the U.S. South.

SFI advances conservation objectives in forests throughout North America through the values expressed in our standards, carefully targeted research and grants, leadership of critical initiatives, and developing partnerships that bridge the forest landowner and conservation communities.

In collaboration with SFI's Manager of Conservation Partnerships, the SFI Conservation Programs Intern will advance SFI's mission by developing ArcGIS based conservation program maps, associated [Story Maps](#), and related information. The intern will also create a framework for storing spatial forestry data and provide support on other SFI projects as needed.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:

SFI Conservation Program Story Map Development:

SFI's Conservation Programs include the [SFI Conservation Partnerships Grant Program](#), the [Conservation Impact Project](#), and leadership in convening stakeholders relative to forest-based supply chains and conservation outcomes. The Conservation Programs Intern will compile conservation data and communications content across multiple sources to develop map(s) that illustrate the breadth and value of this work. The candidate will use the maps developed to create an ESRI Story Map that brings SFI's conservation efforts to life for diverse audiences. [You can read more about ESRI Story Maps here.](#)

Forestry Spatial Data Framework Development:

SFI Program Participants (i. e. organizations certified to SFI Standards) collectively manage over 370 million acres of forestlands across North America. Although SFI collects information on these lands at the state and provincial levels, we have not previously gathered shapefiles indicating the exact locations of these properties. SFI's Conservation Impact Project and an increasing need for transparency have driven a need for acquisition and analysis of spatial data.

The candidate will help envision and develop a framework to gather and host spatial information voluntarily provided by SFI Program Participants. The framework could include the following elements:

- A system for SFI Program Participants and other partners to easily upload shapefiles.
- A methodology to track and retain ownership data for SFI, but to mask ownership as needed, when sharing summary information for external use.
- A methodology to efficiently aggregate shapefiles as additional data is uploaded.
- Creative data overlays to calculate conservation values associated with the certified footprint.

SFI Inc. is an inclusive employer and provides equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants regardless of race, colour, place of origin, religion, age, gender, or disability.

A job description is a general description of the function and major duties of a job. It may not specify all duties, tasks, and assignments associated with a job. It is not intended to limit or in any way modify the right of management to direct, assign, and control the work of employees in a unit. Accuracy, attention to detail, ability to work effectively in a team environment, and ability to work in an atmosphere of multiple projects and shifting priorities are requirements of all jobs at the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, Inc. Additional job-related qualifications may be specified for some openings. Job descriptions are subject to periodic review.



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Special Assignments:

The candidate may participate in other mapping, research, or related assignments, as needed by the SFI Conservation team.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

This position is funded partly through support from the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy. To be eligible for this internship, candidates must:

- Be between 15-30 years old at the start of employment;
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* for the duration of the employment; and
- Have a valid Social Insurance Number at the start of employment and be legally entitled to work in Canada in accordance with relevant provincial or territorial legislation and regulations.

EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS AND PREFERENCES:

- At least three years of successful university course work, preferably in natural resources, conservation, forestry, or environmental education
- Significant coursework or experience with GIS
- Experience developing ESRI Story Maps is preferred
- Experience with data bases or large datasets is preferred
- Experience or interest in translating conservation data into compelling stories, including for nontechnical audiences

PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- A positive attitude and high energy—a person who sees opportunities rather than obstacles, enjoys working cooperatively in a team environment, and takes responsibility over personal work
- Active curiosity and engagement in ongoing learning—having and seeking depth of content knowledge and understanding
- Ability to manage multiple complex projects in a fast-paced environment, handling tasks with diplomacy, tenacity, patience, and a drive for results
- Attention to detail and strong organizational skills
- An aptitude for technology and interest in learning new software systems and tools
- Superior written and verbal communication skills

HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for this position, email a resume and cover letter to Courtney.guillen@sfiprogram.org. Subject line should say "Application: Conservation Programs Intern." Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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