

SFI IN BRIEF

Recent highlights from SFI

SFI PARTNERS WITH



Well-managed forests are "for the birds," providing habitat for a wide variety of species. SFI's vast footprint offers a living laboratory for researchers to study them across the U.S. and Canada. A [current project](#) with the American Bird Conservancy is highlighting the value of managed forestlands certified to SFI, and subject to SFI Fiber Sourcing, in providing habitat for bird species known to be at risk. For example, early results suggest that two study areas in the U.S. South may provide habitat for as many as 90,000 Prairie Warblers.

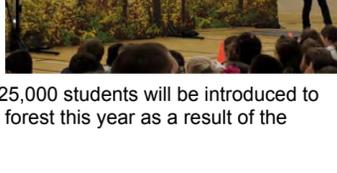
In total, SFI's Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program has provided nearly \$900,000 in support of bird conservation research. In Canada, SFI is helping boreal birds by supporting the [University of Alberta's Boreal Avian Modelling \(BAM\) Project](#). The BAM project is developing models to help forest managers understand the diversity of habitats needed by birds for breeding. This work will help ensure high-quality habitat for a variety of bird species in the boreal forest.

SFI Grant Program Highlights

SFI Community Grants *Bring Back the Wild* to Earth Ranger Programs

This spring, across Canada, thousands of students are learning more about sustainable forest management through the Earth Rangers - an organization dedicated to educating and empowering children to *Bring Back the Wild*.

Through funding provided by [SFI's Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program](#), Earth Rangers is including a component in their school assembly program about the [University of Alberta's Boreal Avian Modelling \(BAM\) Project](#), another SFI grant project. Approximately 125,000 students will be introduced to the varied habitat types of bird species in the boreal forest this year as a result of the community grant.



Advanced South Carolina Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Tour Workshop

Through an [SFI Community Engagement Grant](#), 18 graduates of the South Carolina Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Tour participated in a workshop at Hobcaw Barony in Georgetown, SC in March.

During this engaging field experience, participants took part in Project Learning Tree activities, and gained other insights to advance their knowledge of sustainable practices and management of forests to enhance biodiversity. The program included a tour of a portion of the 16,000-acre/6,500-hectare property led by George Chastain, Executive Director of The Belle W. Baruch Foundation. He discussed the history of the property, and how sustainable forest management fits into the primary objective of research and education.



Next Generation Science Standards/Project Learning Tree Workshop

With support from an [SFI Community Partnership Grant](#), Sierra Nevada Journeys (SNJ) hosted the "2018 NGSS Bootcamp: Taking STEM Outside" for 110 K-12 teachers and student teachers from Nevada and California.

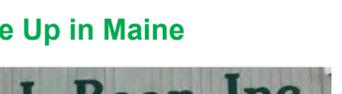
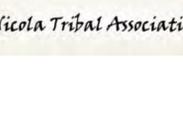
The three-day bootcamp provided training on the Next Generation Science Standards using Project Learning Tree activities. It included grade-level breakouts, hands-on workshops, and peer-to-peer teaching in a beautiful outdoor setting in the Sierra foothills.

"We couldn't have made this happen without support from Project Learning Tree and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative," said Sean Hill, SNJ Education Director and Nevada PLT State Coordinator. The North American Association for Environmental Education also provided funding for this event.



New SFI Board Members Elected to Enhance Conservation Impact, Supply Chain Assurance and Community Engagement

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. is pleased to [announce](#) the election of new members to our Board of Directors: Mike Parr, President, American Bird Conservancy; Jim Irving, Co-CEO, JD Irving Limited; Lennard Joe, President, Nicola Tribal Association; and Jaime Yraguen, President, Associated Oregon Loggers. These new members embody SFI's three pillars: supply chain assurance, conservation elevation, and education and community engagement.



SFI and PLT Present at Green Me Up in Maine



Project Learning Tree Maine and the Maine SFI Implementation Committee participated in [Green Me Up](#), an Earth Day celebration put on by the Girl Scouts of Maine and L.L. Bean. Representatives at the PLT and SFI booths talked about sustainability and gave out tree cookie necklaces to over 500 Girl Scouts. A special thank you to Sarah Medina of Seven Islands, an SFI Program Participant company, and Pat Sirois, the Maine SFI Implementation Committee Coordinator, for participating at the event.

Project Learning Tree Highlights

Summer Institutes for Teachers

During June, July, and August, teachers have an opportunity to tour their state's forests, meet foresters, and learn about forest management practices, as well as how to connect what they learn in the field to the classroom. These multi-day [teachers' tours](#) and forestry institutes provide balanced, science-based education and an understanding of how decisions are made about forests. Teachers who attend these institutes learn how to use forests to teach across many subject areas, along with PLT's lesson plans that are correlated with current state academic standards. This in-depth professional development includes critical thinking, lesson planning, time outdoors, and lots of resources to effectively teach about forest ecology, conservation, and sustainable forestry.



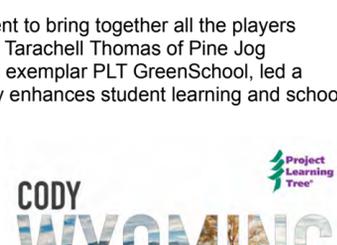
2018 Green Schools Conference & Expo

SFI was a silver sponsor at the Green Schools Conference & Expo this year, held May 2-4 in Denver. SFI's sponsorship specifically supported the conference track "Inside Out: Using the Outdoors to Enhance Learning." James McGirt, SFI's Manager of Service Learning and Community Engagement, attended the event and hosted a joint SFI/PLT exhibit. Hosted by the U.S. Green Building Council (in partnership with the Green Schools National Network and in collaboration with supporting organizations nationwide), the Green Schools Conference & Expo is the only national event to bring together all the players involved in making green schools a reality. Principal Tarachell Thomas of Pine Jog Elementary in West Palm Beach, FL, a certified and exemplar PLT GreenSchool, led a special discussion about how environmental literacy enhances student learning and school culture.

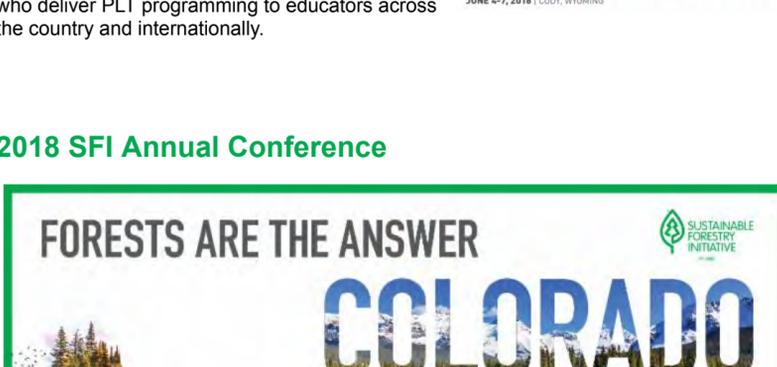


[PLT International Coordinators Conference](#)

The 2018 Project Learning Tree International Coordinators' Conference will be held June 4-7 in Cody, Wyoming. Now in its 32nd year, this annual conference is designed to provide professional development, networking opportunities, and information about new initiatives to PLT's partners who deliver PLT programming to educators across the country and internationally.



2018 SFI Annual Conference



When it comes to providing supply chain assurances, producing conservation outcomes, and supporting education and community engagement - *Forests are the Answer*. The 2018 SFI Annual Conference will engage you in a discussion focused on why *Forests are the Answer* to so many of our conservation, community, and supply chain challenges.

Come to the [2018 SFI Annual Conference](#) to learn more and engage with the SFI community. [Register](#) before August 31 to take advantage of our registration and hotel discounts.

Where to Find SFI

SFI staff are always on the road, speaking at conferences and exhibiting at shows. Want to say hello? Meet us at these upcoming events:



Jess Kaknevicus, Director, Education and Indigenous Relations, and **Zachary Wagman**, Manager, Green Jobs, will be attending the [Community, Conservation & Livelihoods](#) international conference in Halifax, May 28-30. The event will include a poster session, which will feature Project Learning Tree Canada's Green Jobs Program.



Paul Trianosky, Chief Conservation Officer, and **Jason Metnick**, Senior VP, Customer Affairs, will attend [Sustainable Brands 2018](#) in Vancouver, June 4-7.



SFI has partnered with the Intertribal Timber Council again this year to support and exhibit at the [42nd Annual National Indian Timber Symposium](#) in Ocean Shores, Washington, June 4-7. **Rocco Saracina**, Manager, Conservation Partnerships, will be in attendance. There will be a PLT Workshop on June 7 as part of a collaboration between PLT Washington and SFI.



SFI is sponsoring and exhibiting at the [Southern Group of State Foresters Summer Meeting](#) in Richmond, Virginia, June 4-7. **Barry Graden**, Director, SFI Forest Partners® Program, will be in attendance.



SFI is attending and exhibiting at the Canadian Green Building Council's [Build Lasting Change 2018](#) conference in Toronto, June 5-7. **Zachary Wagman**, Manager, Green Jobs, will be staffing SFI's booth #510.



SFI is sponsoring and exhibiting at the [Association of Consulting Foresters 2018 National Conference](#) in Asheville, North Carolina, June 9-12. **Barry Graden**, Director, SFI Forest Partners® Program, will be in attendance.



SFI is sponsoring and exhibiting at the [AIA Conference on Architecture 2018](#) in New York City, June 21-23. **Zachary Wagman**, Manager, Green Jobs, will be staffing SFI's booth #974.

Get Social With SFI

The SFI community is diverse and includes landowners, brand owners, conservation organizations, community groups, the public sector, universities, Indigenous peoples and more.

As we continue to grow, we are excited to share not only SFI's stories but the SFI community's news as well! Please take a few minutes to tweet and post your thoughts or send us your stories so we can share them for you:

- Follow us on [LinkedIn](#)
- Like us on [Facebook](#)
- Follow us on [Twitter](#)

We want to make sure you stay in the loop and are receiving our communications. To ensure our emails continue to reach your inbox, please add our email address to your safe senders list, address book or contact list.