THE LOG

SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER

Sharing SIC relevant news and accomplishments across the SFI network.
Please forward to SFI Implementation Committee members

Does your SIC have something to share? Send your update to Gordy Mouw, Director of Network Relations at SFI, for inclusion in a future newsletter!

December 2025

Spotlights

Forest To Tap Program

The Minnesota SFI Implementation Committee (MN SIC) partnership with the Forest To Tap (F2T) Program was highlighted at the 2025 SFI Annual Conference SIC General Session. The MN SIC support has been financial F2T sponsorship, participation with displays at brewery events, tree seedling giveaways, and more. The response to this session was very positive, and many were interested in starting a similar program at their SIC. This partnership is an excellent example of SICs meeting the 2022 SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard Objective 7 / Forest Management Objective 14 of Community Involvement and Landowner Outreach.



Rick Horton, former Minnesota SFI Implementation Committee Coordinator, who led the Minnesota F2T partnership.

The Forest to Tap Program utilizes the strong connection between great forests, great water, and great beer to educate the public on the importance of responsibly managed forests. The Forest To Tap (F2T) Program is partnering with the expanding craft brewery industry to raise awareness on a critical ingredient in our lives and great beer: clean water from healthy forests. F2T was created to educate the public on how healthy forests are managed, how that management affects water quality, and how, without it, much of the water we rely on wouldn't exist.

In response to this interest, we have created a guide on bringing the program to your SIC.

News & Updates

Understanding Indigenous Communities in the US South: An Introduction for the SFI Community

Thank you to the over 160 people who joined us on December 2 for SFI's Indigenous training webinar to support SICs and SFI-certified organizations in implementing programs for the SFI FM Obj. 8. If you missed the webinar or would like to review for your own training, you can view the recording here.

Forest Literacy: Understanding the Values of Trees, Forests, and Sustainability

PLT and Texas A&M Forest Service partnered to launch a free, self-paced online course that increases forest literacy and strengthens community connections to trees. The course introduces educators, professionals considering careers in forestry, and individuals working in the sector without a background in natural resources to the many values of forests and highlights the importance of sustainable forest management. Share the course or try it for yourself!

SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative Updates

Upcoming Survey request to Canadian Certified Organizations

Canadian partners, please be aware of an upcoming email request for your participation in a short survey to enhance our understanding of Climate Smart Forestry (Obj 9) and Fire Resilience (Obj 10). This optional survey is intended to be a reasonable extension from the SFI Annual Survey that advances the SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative and supports our collaboration with certified organizations. In particular, we are seeking additional information about forest management strategies to mitigate climate change and/or improve forest resilience. We also aim to learn about barriers to implementing climate smart strategies, for example cost and capacity.

We appreciate the resources that SFI-certified organizations already invest to complete the SFI Annual Survey and thank you in advance for your attention to this request. Please contact Lauren Cooper with questions or suggestions.

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Indigenous-led Climate Smart Forestry

SFI is funding support for Indigenous-Led Climate Smart Forestry (CSF) in Canada to identify, develop, and implement climate smart practices and strategies. The main goal is to reduce emissions from forestry and to ensure forests managed by our Indigenous partners are more resilient to a changing climate. Up to $150,000 CAD per year is available for each project, for a maximum of 2 years. Learn more about the overall project and information on the current RFP. If you have questions, please contact Rachel Hamilton.

Upcoming Events

New SIC Chair and Coordinator Training

Join us in the new year for an orientation webinar on January 22 from 1-2:00 P.M. ET! This session will provide a good starting point for new SIC Chairs and/or Coordinators and is open to all SIC members. We will review the SIC governance document, highlight available SFI resources, share some SFI updates, and provide an opportunity for Q&A and discussion.

Upcoming Funding Opportunity

Join SFI on January 20, 2025, at 12:00 P.M. ET for an information session to learn about a funding opportunity to advance carbon stewardship practices for large landowners in the Lake States and the 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 carbon stewardship practices, the Request for Proposals, the application process and interface, eligibility and requirements, and have time for Q&A. For more information, please reach out to Greg Cooper.

SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative Webinar Series

Join the SFI Conservation Team and guest speakers for quarterly updates! The next webinar, scheduled for winter 2026, will showcase SFI collaboration with McMaster University on Vulnerability Assessments. Details to come soon. Past webinars include:

- **June 5, 2025**: Overview of the SFI CSF Initiative, featuring the SFI partnership with Silva21 during the Silva21 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on adaptive silviculture. Watch recording.
- **October 9, 2025**: Highlights from SFI funded Indigenous-led CSF projects, featuring current Indigenous-led climate smart forestry activities.

If you want to receive the latest SFI conservation news, opportunities, and updates about our climate smart forestry projects, subscribe to the SFI Climate Smart Forestry Initiative mailing list.

Save the Date: SFI Annual Conference

Join us in Montréal, Quebec from May 5-7, 2026, for the 2026 SFI Annual Conference. The conference will take place from Tuesday afternoon through Thursday, but we encourage you to come early or stay a little longer to enjoy all that Montréal has to offer! Add the conference to your calendar.



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