



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE
AND
WASHINGTON SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

I. BACKGROUND

The mission of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative ("SFI") is to advance sustainability through forest-focused collaboration. SFI is a sustainability leader through our work in standards, conservation, community, and education. As an independent, non-profit organization, SFI collaborates with our diverse network to provide solutions to local and global sustainability challenges. SFI works with the forest sector, brand owners, conservation groups, resource professionals, landowners, educators, local communities, Indigenous Peoples, governments, and universities.

SFI Implementation Committees ("SIC" or "SICs") play a vital role in promoting logger training, landowner outreach, youth and adult education, community engagement, the integrity of the SFI standards, and responsible forestry at local levels. SICs operate at a state, provincial, or regional level and facilitate or manage the programs and alliances that support the SFI strategic direction.

Organizations certified to the SFI Forest Management or Fiber Sourcing Standards are required to participate in the SICs where their significant operations exist. For purposes of this MOU, "SFI Certified Organization" means an entity that holds a current, valid certificate to the SFI Forest Management Standard and/or the SFI Fiber Sourcing Standard issued by an accredited certification body.

II. MOU PURPOSE

The purpose of this MOU is to:

1. Establish a collaborative relationship between SFI and SIC in order to advance shared strategic priorities.
2. Demonstrate agreement with the [SIC Governance Document](#), as may be updated from time to time.
3. Ensure SIC adherence to the SFI and SIC logo use guidelines.
4. Establish clear license terms governing SIC use of SFI and SIC marks and related materials, as set out in this MOU and Exhibits A-C.

III. SIC OBLIGATIONS

The SIC shall:

1. Maintain bylaws, charter, or operating procedures formalizing the SFI-specific focus of the committee, the leadership role of SFI Certified Organizations, and the SIC decision-making process;

2. Allow the unconditional participation of all SFI Certified Organizations that operate within their state, province, or region, with operations to include forestlands, manufacturing facilities, or fiber purchasing. If SIC is supported by another legal entity, such as a state or provincial association, the SIC should have autonomy in decision making and spending authority and maintain accounting of the fees given the SIC by SFI Certified Organizations;
3. Submit the *SIC Annual Survey* to SFI every year by the deadline provided by SFI, documenting program activities and spending to support activities;
4. Abide by the requirements outlined in the [SIC Governance Document](#), which is the principal document that outlines SIC priorities and strategic opportunities. The SIC Governance Document may be updated by SFI in conjunction with future SFI standard revisions and SFI strategic updates. The most current version of the document can be found on the SIC members' [webpage](#). The SIC is required to abide by the then-current SIC Governance Document at all times during the Term of this MOU, and the SIC is solely responsible for periodically checking the SIC members' webpage for any updates to the SIC Governance Document and complying with the same during the Term;
5. Adhere to SFI rules for SFI and SIC licensed marks as set forth in Exhibits A, B, and C and any updated guidance issued by SFI; and
6. Comply with all quality-control, marking, approval, and attribution requirements for SFI and SIC marks, including prompt correction of any nonconforming use.

IV. SFI OBLIGATIONS

SFI shall:

1. Respond to SIC inquiries and requests in a timely manner, including but not limited to: assistance with logger training presentations, fact sheet/website content review, assistance with advertisements, inconsistent practices, etc.
2. Provide opportunities for sharing of information between SFI and SICs, to support SIC alignment with SFI strategic direction and priorities, through in-person and virtual national and regional forums, attendance at SIC meetings, SIC members webpage, emails to SICs, and other means.
3. Provide opportunities for sharing of information among SICs, to support dissemination of best practices and project ideas, through virtual and in-person forums, SIC members webpage, and other means.
4. Provide assistance, subject to annual availability, for SIC-sponsored outreach materials. Assistance may be in the form of financial support or SFI staff support.

V. LICENSE GRANT; LICENSING TERMS

License Grant. Subject to the terms of this MOU and Exhibits A–C, SFI grants SIC a non-exclusive, revocable, non-transferable, non-sublicensable license to use the SFI and SIC off-product marks and word marks (collectively, the "Marks") solely for the purposes, media, and contexts expressly authorized in this MOU and Exhibits A–C, and solely within SIC's state/province/region. All use must comply with SFI's quality-control, approval, and marking requirements, including the SFI label identification number requirement where applicable.

Scope of License. The permitted scope of use is set out in Exhibits A–C. If any scope element (e.g., territory, channels, media, program uses) is not expressly identified in Exhibits A–C, it must be approved in writing by SFI prior to use by SIC.

Ownership; Goodwill. SFI owns all right, title, and interest in and to the Marks. All goodwill arising from SIC's use will inure solely to SFI. SIC acquires no rights in the Marks beyond this license. SIC shall not prior to, during, or after the Term of this MOU, (i) apply to register, register or otherwise seek to protect or own the Marks or any similar marks, or (ii) challenge or encourage or assist any third party to challenge SFI's rights in or to the Marks, including, but not limited to, SFI's applied for or registered rights or use of the Marks or any similar marks anywhere in the world.

Quality Control; Approvals. SIC shall submit proposed uses for approval where specified in Exhibits A–C and promptly cure any nonconforming use within thirty (30) days of SFI notice. SFI may disapprove any use or proposed use, and SIC shall immediately cease the disapproved use.

No Product/Endorsement Claims. The Marks may not be used on product, to promote products or services, or in any manner suggesting certification, endorsement, or environmental benefit, except as expressly permitted in Exhibits A–C.

Rules for Use. SICs agree to the Rules for Use (Exhibit A, B and C.), which provide detailed guidelines for use of SFI and SIC registered marks. All registered marks must be accompanied by a statement that recognizes them as registered marks of SFI. Additionally, all uses of the SIC logo or SFI off-product mark by SICs should be submitted for logo use approval to SFI Inc.'s Office of Label Use and Licensing at SFILabels@forests.org.

VI. TERM OF AGREEMENT

This MOU shall begin upon the execution date and continues for five (5) years (the "Term"). Thereafter, it will automatically renew for successive one-year terms unless either party provides written notice of non-renewal at least thirty (30) days before the end of the then-current term. Either party may terminate this MOU at any time for any reason by giving ninety (90) days advance written notice to the other party of its intent to terminate the MOU. The MOU may be amended by written mutual consent of the parties. Upon termination or expiration, SIC shall immediately cease all use of the Marks and remove the Marks from online channels within sixty (60) days, except that pre-printed materials may be used for up to six (6) months without reprinting.

VII. ASSIGNMENT

SIC may not assign or otherwise transfer this MOU or the license granted by it without the written consent of SFI.

VIII. INDEMNITY

SIC shall indemnify, defend, and hold harmless SFI, its affiliates, and its and their officers, directors, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims, losses, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of or relating to: (a) SIC's misuse, inconsistent, or nonconforming use of the Marks or violations of Exhibits A–C; (b) SIC's breach of this MOU; or (c) SIC's materials, communications, or activities undertaken in connection with the Marks. This indemnity is in addition to any remedies available at law or in equity.

IX. GOVERNING LAW

This MOU is governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the District of Columbia, without regard to conflicts-of-law rules. The parties agree that the courts located in the District of Columbia shall be the exclusive forum and venue for any dispute arising out of or relating to this MOU, and each party irrevocably submits to the personal jurisdiction of such courts and waives any objection based on inconvenient forum.

X. AUTHORIZATION

This MOU may be executed electronically and in counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

Agreed:

SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

Signed by:

Nadine Block

1/23/2026

AF683C38DA7E409...

Nadine Block, SVP Network Relations
Sustainable Forestry Initiative
2121 K Street, NW, Suite 750
Washington, D.C. 20037
Phone: 202.765.3641

Date

SIC SIGNER

Signed by:

Ben Cazell

1/22/2026

6E401A57C68641B...

Signature

Date

Ben Cazell, SIC Chair
Washington SIC
Phone: 406-260-2589

Exhibits

Exhibit A:

RULES FOR USE OF SIC AND SFI OFF-PRODUCT MARKS

SFI Licensed Off-Product Marks:

SFI Inc. has off-product marks to show alignment with SFI's mission. SFI Inc. owns all right, title and interest in and to the below off-product marks, and exercises legitimate control over their use. SFI off-product marks for use by SICs include the following:



The "SFI Off-Product Marks."

Note: An SIC may also replace the words "Implementation Committee" in the logos above with the state, province, or region that they represent, subject to SFI approval.

1. The SFI label identification number must be added under the logo mark. The numbering system is as follows: "SFI-00000." The SIC's unique label ID number is provided by SFI Inc. and is different from any certification number provided by the SFI-accredited certification body.
2. SICs must seek approval from the SFI's Office of Label Use and Licensing for use of the SFI Off-Product Marks at SFILabels@forests.org prior to publication or distribution.

As Used For: The following descriptions identify typical informational contexts for off-product use and do not expand the license scope beyond Section V and Exhibit C:

Providing information to land owners, community groups, local government agencies, academics, scientists, conservation organizations, product manufacturers, retailers and interested stakeholders in the field of sustainable forests and sustainable communities relating to conservation of natural forest resources and procurement of forest resources;

Providing community outreach information relating to promoting the exchange of information and resources among landowners, community groups, local government agencies, academics, scientists, conservation

organizations, product manufacturers, retailers and interested stakeholders to achieve advances in the field of sustainable forest management.

Providing information relating to sustainable forest management for ensuring environmental, social and economic sustainable development of our forests, benefiting public and private stakeholders, in International Trademark Class 35;

Providing information relating to certification standards for sustainable forest management for ensuring environmental, social and economic sustainable development of our forests, benefiting public and private stakeholders, in International Trademark Class 42;

Paper and wood products, packaging, and other goods, including non-timber forests products, manufactured from the products of sustainably managed forests; wood fiber materials responsibly harvested and sourced, in International Trademark Class A – for descriptive, informational context only; no product labeling or product promotion is permitted;

Management of forestlands; Chain of custody procedures for wood and paper products, namely, supply chain management for wood and paper products; Manufacturing of wood and paper products, in International Trademark Class B – for descriptive, informational context only; no product labeling or product promotion is permitted.

Required Attribution: If any of the marks are used in written communications or materials, include the statement: "SFI marks are registered marks owned by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc." in an appropriate location.

EXHIBIT B:

RULES FOR USE OF SFI WORD MARKS

SFI Licensed Word Marks:

SFI Inc. owns all right, title and interest in the below word marks and tagline, and exercises legitimate control over the use of its marks. The purpose of these word marks is to show that a party is an SFI Certified Organization and to promote SFI generally:

- SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE®
- SFI®

The SICs shall use the preceding marks strictly in accordance with the following conditions and limitations:

1. The ® only needs to be included the first time "Sustainable Forestry Initiative" or "SFI" word marks appears in a document, whether it is in a title or in text. If both word marks are used, the correct format is: Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI), and then the first use of "SFI" also carries an® (e.g., SFI®).
2. A word mark must be an adjective, it cannot be a noun. When used in text, "standard" or the appropriate descriptor must appear after the mark. The mark should not be plural or possessive.
3. SICs must seek approval from the SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing for use of the word marks at SFILabels@forests.org.
4. Individual members of the SICs are not allowed to use any of these Marks. The Marks are for use by each SIC as a group only.
5. SFI Inc. is the owner of the above service marks. In any publication using the service marks, a distinction must be made between a SFI Certified Organization and "Supporters" (forest products producing companies or other organizations which are not SFI Certified Organizations but are active in and support efforts of the SFI Implementation Committee). Since there are different conformance requirements for both types of participants, SIC literature should make the following distinction with regard to status as a "SFI Certified Organization" or as "Supporters." Supporters cannot publicly claim to be in conformance with the SFI standards, to be participants in the SFI program, or to claim third-party certification.
6. SFI Certified Organizations wishing to use the SFI logo on letterhead should follow the guidelines developed for this purpose through their individual company's SFI licensing agreement.
7. The SICs may use any of these Marks on stationery, brochures, educational material and promotional material, such as bumper stickers and hard hat stickers. The Marks may not be used in conjunction with the sale of a member's products or services or in conjunction with an individual member's name or logo. In the event the SIC wishes to list its individual members on a document which includes the marks, the SIC must denote which members are SFI Certified Organizations and which members are Supporters, as these terms as defined in the Memorandum of Understanding between SFI Inc. and the SIC.
8. The Marks may not be used on any product, to promote any product, in any sales brochure, or in any other manner that may create the impression that the SIC's products or services provide an environmental benefit because of participation in the SFI program.
9. SFI Inc. reserves the right to request samples of use of the Marks from time to time. SFI Inc. has the right to disapprove the use of a Mark, whereupon the SIC shall immediately discontinue such use of the Mark.

10. If SFI Inc. determines a SIC is not using the Marks as provided in these rules, SFI Inc. will furnish the Committee with written notice specifying the inappropriate use(s) and allowing the Committee thirty (30) days in which to make a correction. Failure of the Committee to make the correction will result in revocation of the right to use the Marks.
11. Any observed misuse of the Marks should be immediately reported to SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing.
12. The SIC Chairperson is responsible for compliance with the above rules.

EXHIBIT C

RULES FOR USE OF SFI OFF-PRODUCT MARKS AND WORD MARKS

1. The off-product and word marks may be used as follows:
 - A. In image advertising that focuses on a summary of SIC accomplishments or values, on SIC members, on SIC community activities, or any combination of the above. Such advertising must not promote specific products, tout product attributes, or make value propositions, although generic products may be shown.
 - B. In communications which explain and/or promote the Sustainable Forestry Initiative program's services and a SIC's use of SFI standards, both to members and to those outside of the SIC.
 - C. On business letterhead, business cards, and invoices.
 - D. In annual reports, provided there is a reference to the SFI website.
 - E. On generic business signs (e.g., vehicles, forest stands, office buildings, and mill sites that are owed or held on a long-term exclusive lease).
 - F. On clothing and protective gear (e.g., uniforms, shirts, and hard hats), in conjunction with, but not attached to, a company's name or off product.
 - G. On a SIC website with a link to the SFI website.
2. If any of the marks are used in written communications, the following statement must be included in an appropriate location (e.g., bottom of the page or on the back of a brochure) "SFI marks are registered marks owned by the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc." In addition to the references to the SFI website required above, SICs must include a reference to the SFI website in any document where an off-product or wordmark is displayed.
3. Use of the marks must comply with the following:
 - A. A SIC may use one color in the presentation of the logo marks. If you choose to use green, the PMS is 347C. PMS 348 may also be used.
 - B. The off-product mark font is Vag Rounded Light. The off-product mark may not be recreated using any other fonts or styles of these fonts. The font sizes must remain in the same proportions as the off-product mark provided in camera-ready or electronic file form.
 - C. The off-product mark may appear within a photographic image or illustration.
 - D. The off-product mark may not be combined with any other logo or image in such a way as to create a third logo or mark.
 - E. The SFI tree shield portion of the off-product mark can be used without the wordmark in certain instances such as social media, watermarks on photographs, and on design materials for a cleaner feel. Variations of the logo are never to be used on product to communicate SFI certification status, or to alter the SFI on-product label and claim.
 - F. The off-product mark must always be accompanied by the SIC's SFI label ID number. The SFI label ID number shall be added under the mark.
4. The SFI mark is registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in Canada, and the European Union, and must be accompanied by a ® to indicate that SFI Inc. owns it, unless otherwise authorized in these rules.
5. Any public communication by SICs shall be accurate and consistent with applicable law and requirements for SFI off-product use. SICs are encouraged to consult the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's guidelines on environmental claims in product advertising and communication and the guidelines on environmental labeling and advertising issued by the Fair Business Practices

Branch of Industry Canada's Competition Bureau, as appropriate, and to seek additional information and direction from national accreditation bodies, national standards bodies and national, state and provincial consumer protection and competition laws. Legal counsel, as well as with the SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing, should be consulted during the preparation of any material that uses the marks and describes or makes claims about SFI and a SIC's participation.

6. The SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing reserves the right to refuse any label use that does not align with SFI Inc.'s strategic objective, which is to "ensure the SFI standard is strong, grounded in science, progressive and based on integrity and proven through conservation collaboration resulting in wide market acceptance."
7. If SFI Inc. determines marks are not being used as provided in these rules, it will send a written notice specifying the inappropriate use(s) and allow thirty (30) days in which to make a correction. If corrections are not made, the right to use the marks will be revoked.
8. Any observed misuse of any of these marks should be reported immediately to the SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing.
9. SFI Inc. has marketing materials available on the members-only section of the SFI website. Please contact the SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing for access to this section.
10. Marks may not be used on or to promote products or services or to imply certification or endorsement, except as expressly permitted.
11. Use is limited to the SIC's applicable state/province/region.
12. Approval for SFI on product label use and SFI marks should be obtained from the SFI Office of Label Use and Licensing at SFILabels@forests.org.