



## **SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program 2010 South Coast Conservation Program: Managing for Species at Risk on the British Columbia Coast**

In 2010, Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) Inc. introduced its Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program, furthering its long-standing commitment to research and bringing together diverse partners, including SFI program participants, conservation groups and several government agencies, to deliver conservation benefits across North America and tackle illegal logging issues globally.

Independent non-profit SFI Inc. invited applications for collaborative projects that help to implement the SFI 2010-2014 Standard, make it stronger, and show how SFI certification delivers tangible benefits on the ground and complements existing government initiatives in North America. Applicants were encouraged to address topics of current importance such as the role of certified forests in emerging bioenergy and carbon markets, improving wildlife habitat management, avoiding controversial sources of fiber such as those resulting from illegal logging, and delivering community benefits through activities involving partners such as government agencies, Aboriginal communities and universities.

In May 2010, the SFI program announced a commitment of \$675,000 to support nine projects, including \$307,500 for 2010 alone. Through the involvement of partners, these projects will leverage additional resources and achieve a total value of almost \$2.7 million.

### **Managing for Species at Risk on the British Columbia Coast**

The South Coast Conservation Program ([www.sccp.ca](http://www.sccp.ca)) will receive \$60,000 to update and expand an existing field guide/training tool on species at risk for the forestry sector; develop and deliver a training package to field personnel/forestry practitioners, planners and First Nations; and complete a technical review of grizzly bear critical habitat polygons.

#### *Supporting the SFI Standard*

The project contributes to a number of performance measures in the SFI 2010-2014 Standard. These include 4.1: "Program Participants shall have programs to promote biological diversity at stand- and landscape-levels" and 6.1: "Program Participants shall identify special sites and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features." It also contributes to performance measures related to training, building collaborative partnerships to promote sustainable forest management, public outreach and support for public land planning/management processes.

#### *Project Partners*

Partners include the British Columbia Ministry of Environment, as well as SFI program participants International Forest Products Ltd. (Interfor), and Capacity Forest Management (on behalf of nine coastal First Nations that hold tenures on the coast of British Columbia).

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-2-

### *Project Details*

This project will build on existing collaborative work undertaken by SFI-certified companies, government and conservation organizations who are committed to providing best available information to forest managers, practitioners and First Nations partners. The core goals of this project are to bring together SFI-certified companies, including those owned by First Nations, government and conservation interests to collaboratively develop materials and tools to identify and protect habitat and populations of forest dependent species at risk for both animals and plant communities.

### **About the South Coast Conservation Program**

The South Coast Conservation Program is a multi-partner, landscape-level conservation program whose primary objective is to coordinate and facilitate the implementation of conservation actions to maintain and restore species and ecosystems at risk on the South Coast of British Columbia.

### **About SFI Inc.**

SFI Inc. is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, and is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program ([www.sfiprogram.org](http://www.sfiprogram.org)). Close to 200 million acres/80 million hectares are certified to the SFI forest management standard across North America, making it the largest single forest standard in the world. SFI chain-of-custody certification tells buyers the percentage of certified, uncertified and recycled content in a product. Unique SFI fiber sourcing requirements promote responsible forest management on all suppliers' lands in North America, whether certified or not. SFI Inc. is governed by a three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally.

The SFI program is grounded in science and research, and based on conservation and community partnerships. Since 1995, SFI-certified organizations have invested more than \$1.1 billion US for research activities that improve the health, productivity and responsible management of forest resources. The program also responds to diverse local needs across the United States and Canada through a unique network of 37 SFI Implementation Committees. SFI Inc. values and facilitates this research and outreach work through awards and support for collaborative activities.

For more information:

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