

# Worldly Recognized Sustainable Forest Associations In Western Canada



## **The Canadian Standards Association's Sustainable Forest Management Standard**

(CAN/CSA-Z809-02) is based on nationally and internationally recognized criteria for sustainable forest management. It addresses environmental, social and economic issues and requires a rigorous public participation process. In October 2007, British Columbia has almost 33.1 million hectares (82 million acres) certified to CSA.



**The Forest Stewardship Council** (FSC Principles and Criteria) is an international non-profit organization that supports environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management. In October 2007, British Columbia has 577, 295 hectares (about 1.4 million acres) certified to FSC.





**The Sustainable Forestry Initiative** (SFI 2005-2009) includes environmental objectives and performance measures and integrates the growing and harvesting of trees with the protection of a variety of conservation goals. In October 2007, British Columbia had about 10.9 million hectares (26.9 million acres) certified to SFI.

# Details Pertaining to Worldly Recognized Sustainable Forest Association

\* This summary of key elements of forest certification programs used in British Columbia is from a publication prepared by the Forest Products Association of Canada in 2006 based on information publicly available at that time.

	<b>CSA SFM STANDARD (CAN/CSA-Z809-02)</b>	<b>FSC PRINCIPLES AND CRITERIA</b>	<b>SFI® STANDARD (SFIS 2005-2009)</b>
<b>CONSERVE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY</b>	<p>Conserve biological diversity by maintaining integrity, function, and diversity of living organisms and the complexes of which they are a part. (Canadian Council of Forest Ministers Criterion 1— a CSA requirement)</p> <p>Note: CSA also addresses this issue through its CSA SFM Element 1.4 Protected Areas and Sites of Special Biological Significance.</p>	<p>Forest management shall conserve biological diversity and its associated values, water resources, soils, and unique and fragile ecosystems and landscapes, and, by so doing, maintain the ecological functions and the integrity of the forest. (FSC P6)</p> <p>Note: FSC also addresses this issue through its Principal 9 Maintenance of High Conservation Value Forests.</p>	<p>Programs to promote biological diversity at stand and landscape levels. (Performance Measures 4.1)</p> <p>Note: SFI also addresses this issue through the Commitment to the Protection of Special Sites and Forests With Exceptional Conservation Value, Conservation of Biodiversity Hotspots and Major Tropical Wilderness Areas. (SFI Program Overview 5.0)</p>
<b>MAINTAIN WILDLIFE HABITAT AND SPECIES DIVERSITY</b>	<p>Conserve ecosystem diversity at the landscape level by maintaining the variety of communities and ecosystems that naturally occur in the defined forest area. (CSA SFM Element 1.1)</p> <p>Conserve species diversity by ensuring that habitats for the native species found in the defined forest area are maintained through time. (CSA SFM Element 1.2)</p>	<p>Ecological functions and values shall be maintained intact, enhanced, or restored, including:</p> <p>a) Forest regeneration and succession b) Genetic, species, and ecosystem diversity. (FSC 6.3)</p> <p>Safeguards shall exist which protect rare, threatened and endangered species and their habitats (e.g., nesting and feeding areas). (FSC 6.2)</p> <p>These critical habitats are also addressed through the High Conservation value assessment. (FSC 9.1 and 9.3)</p>	<p>Apply knowledge, gained through research, science, technology, and field experience, to manage wildlife habitat and contribute to the conservation of biological diversity. (Performance Measure 4.2)</p> <p>Plans to locate and protect known sites associated with viable occurrences of critically imperiled and imperiled species and communities. (Indicator 4.1.3)</p>
<b>PROTECT/MAINTAIN SPECIAL SITES</b>	<p>Respect protected areas identified through government processes. Identify sites of special biological significance within the defined forest area and implement management strategies appropriate to their long-term maintenance. (CSA SFM Element 1.4)</p> <p>Respect traditional Aboriginal forest values and uses identified through the Aboriginal input process. (CSA SFM Element 6.1)</p>	<p>Representative samples of existing ecosystems within the landscape shall be protected in their natural state and recorded on maps... (FSC 6.4)</p> <p>Management activities in high conservation value forests shall maintain or enhance the attributes, which define such forests... (FSC P9)</p>	<p>Identify special sites and manage them in a manner appropriate for their unique features. (Performance Measures 6.1)</p> <p>Note: SFI has incorporated several requirements to protect forests with exceptional conservation values.</p>

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<b>MAINTAIN SOIL AND WATER RESOURCES</b>	<p>Conserve soil resources by maintaining soil quality and quantity. (CSA SFM Element 3.1)</p> <p>Conserve water resources by maintaining water quality and quantity. (CSA SFM Element 3.2)</p>	<p>Written guidelines shall be prepared and implemented to control erosion, minimize forest damage during harvesting, road construction, and all other mechanical disturbance; and protect water resources. (FSC 6.3 &amp; 6.5)</p>	<p>Implementing management practices to protect and maintain forest and soil productivity. (Performance Measure 2.3)</p> <p>Meet or exceed Best Management Practices developed under Environmental Protection Agency-approved state water quality programs. . . (Performance Measure 3.2)</p>
<b>ENSURE HARVEST LEVELS ARE SUSTAINABLE</b>	<p>Manage the forest sustainably to produce an acceptable and feasible mix of both timber and non-timber benefits. (CSA SFM Element 5.1)</p> <p>Conserve forest ecosystem productivity and productive capacity by maintaining ecosystem conditions that are capable of supporting naturally occurring species. (CSA SFM Element 2.2)</p>	<p>The rate of harvest of forest products shall not exceed levels which can be permanently sustained. (FSC 5.6)</p>	<p>Ensure that long-term harvest levels are sustainable and consistent with relevant growth and yield models and written plans. (Performance Measures 1.1)</p>
<b>NO WOOD FROM ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORIZED SOURCES</b>	<p>Products market with the CSA SFM Mark must not contain any wood or wood raw material from illegal or unauthorized harvesting such as harvesting in forest areas protected by law. (Specifications for Use of the CSA SFM Mark Document)</p>	<p>Forest management areas should be protected from illegal harvesting, settlement and other unauthorized activities. (FSC 1.5)</p>	<p>Procurement policies support the principles of sustainable forestry including effort to thwart illegal logging and promote conservation of biological diversity. (Performance Measure 8.5)</p>
<b>PROTECT FORESTLANDS FROM DEFORESTATION AND CONVERSION</b>	<p>Protect forestlands from deforestation or conversion to non-forests. (CSA SFM Element 4.2)</p>	<p>Forest conversion to plantation or non forest land uses shall not occur, except in circumstances where conversion... (FSC 6.10 &amp; 10.9)</p>	<p>Reforest after final harvest. . . Through artificial regeneration within two years or two planting seasons, or by planned natural regeneration methods within five years (Performance Measures 2.1)</p>
<b>ABORIGINAL RIGHTS AND/OR INVOLVEMENT</b>	<p>Aboriginal and Treaty Rights: Recognize and respect Aboriginal and treaty rights. (CSA SFM Element 6.1)</p> <p>Respect for Aboriginal Forest Values, Knowledge, and Uses: Respect traditional Aboriginal forest values and uses identified through the Aboriginal input process. (CSA SFM Element 6.2)</p> <p>Demonstrate through documentation that efforts were made to encourage Aboriginal forest users and communities to become involved in identifying and addressing SFM values. (CSA 5.2d)</p>	<p>Indigenous peoples shall control forest management on their lands and territories unless they delegate control with free and informed consent to other agencies. (FSC 3.1)</p> <p>Forest management shall not threaten or diminish, either directly or indirectly, the resources or tenure right of indigenous peoples. (FSC 3.2)</p> <p>Sites of special cultural, ecological, economic or religious significance to indigenous peoples shall be clearly identified to co-operation with such peoples, and recognized and protected by forest managers. (FSC 3.3)</p> <p>Indigenous peoples shall be compensated for the application of their traditional knowledge... (FSC 3.4)</p>	<p>Program Participants with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected indigenous peoples. (Performance Measure 12.4)</p> <p>Indicator 1: Program that includes communication with affected indigenous peoples to enable Program Participants to understand and respect traditional forest-related knowledge; identify and protect spiritually, historically, or culturally important sites; and address the sustainable use of non-timber forest products of value to indigenous peoples in areas where Program Participants have management responsibilities on public lands.</p>

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<b>REQUIRE INDEPENDENT AUDIT FOR CERTIFICATION CLAIMS</b>	Thirdparty audit by certification body accredited by Standards Council of Canada, according to ISO Guide 66 for EMS with specific forestry qualifications for CSA audits.	FSC International announced in early 2006 that it is establishing an accreditation business entity, entitled, ASI—Accreditation Services International GmbH. Previously all FSC certification bodies were accredited directly by FSC International.	Third-party audit by certification body accredited by ANSI—ASQ National Accreditation Board according to ISO Guide 66 for EMS with specific forestry qualifications for SFI audits.
<b>AUDIT OF FOREST PLANNING AND PRACTICES</b>	Audit includes but is not limited to checking SFM plans and practices to ensure conformance with plans and requirements of the standard.	Audit includes but is not limited to checking SFM plans and practices to ensure conformance with plans and requirements of the standard.	Audit includes but is not limited to checking SFM plans and practices to ensure conformance with plans and requirements of the standard.
<b>REQUIRE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE</b>	Requires public disclosure of the full certification audit report, SFM Plan and SFM annual report.	Requires public disclosure of a summary of the certification audit report, as well as a summary of the primary elements of the management plan and of the results of the monitoring indicators.	Claims of certification shall be accompanied by a public report made available on the SFB website which includes a summary of the audit findings, including general descriptions of any non-conformances and corrective action plans to address them...
<b>INVOLVEMENT/ SUPPORT OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	Members of CSA SFM Technical Committee responsible for the standard include Wildlife Habitat Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation, NatureServe Canada and consumer, aboriginal and labour representative.	Environmental organizations such as WWF, Sierra Club, Greenpeace and ForestEthics support the objectives of FSC and have been involved to varying extents in providing input into the FSC standards for Canada and in promoting the FSC program in the marketplace.	The Sustainable Forestry Board was chartered as an independent body in July of 2000 to oversee development and continuous improvement of the SFI standards.  Board representation includes The Nature Conservancy and The Conservation Fund. In addition, almost 50 conservation agencies support the SFI objectives.
<b>CHAIN OF CUSTODY</b>	CSA CoC certification requires conformance with the internationally recognized PEFC Council CoC Requirements set out in PEFC Annex 4.  For further information, visit the CSA website at <a href="http://www.certifiedwood.csa.ca">www.certifiedwood.csa.ca</a>	FSC CoC certification requires conformance with the internationally recognized FSC CoC Standard 40-004.  For further information, visit the FSC website at <a href="http://www.fsc.org">www.fsc.org</a>	SFI CoC certification requires conformance with SFI Annex 2, which is based on the internationally recognized PEFC Council CoC Requirements set out in PEFC Annex 4.  For further information visit <a href="http://www.sfiprogram.org">www.sfiprogram.org</a>
<b>LABELS</b>	  CSA provides optional on-product labels for organizations that have a valid CoC certification and meet the CSA label use requirements.  The CSA labels cover 70% minimum certified content and 100% minimum certified content.	  FSC provides optional on-product labels for organizations that have a valid CoC certification and meet the FSC label use requirements.  The FSC labels cover 100% certified, 100% recycled, and a variety of mixed labels that include a combination of certified, uncertified and/or recycled content.	  SFI provides optional on-product labels for organizations that have a valid CoC certification and meet the SFI label use requirements.  The SFI certified content labels cover 100% SFI certified content as well as a content label, which reports on the percentage of SFI certified content in the product.

**Source:** Forest Products Association of Canada: Certification Similarities & Achievements 2006. Based on information publicly available from the following organizations: CSA, SFI, FSC Canada and PEFC.

### Glossary

**ANSI** American National Standards Institute

**HCVF** High conservation value forests

**SFI** Sustainable Forestry Initiative

**ISO** International Organization for Standardization

**SFM** Sustainable forest management

**CoC** Chain of custody

**EMS** Environmental management system

**PEFC** Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes