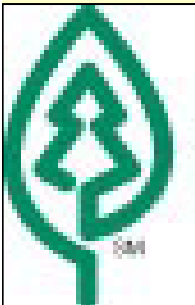


# The SFI® Standard and Social Responsibility

Bill Banzhaf

Sustainable Forestry Board

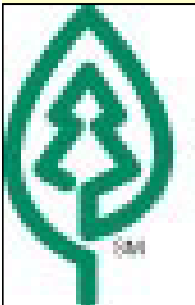
October 20, 2005



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# Independent Governance

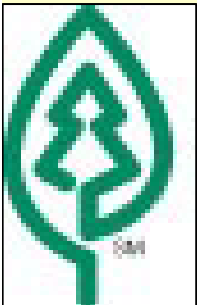
- ❖ The SFI program is governed by a multi-stakeholder board-industry in the minority
  - ❖ 15 members, 66% from diverse non-industry groups:
    - ❖ 1/3 environmental/conservation
    - ❖ 1/3 public officials/professional/academic
    - ❖ 1/3 industry/large landowners
- ❖ Separate Legal Entity - 501(c) 3
- ❖ SFB plays a critical role in the program
  - ❖ Manage SFI Standards and Verification Procedures
  - ❖ Internal Accreditation & Auditor Review
  - ❖ Dispute Resolution & Quality Control



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# When did social issues become a part of American forestry?

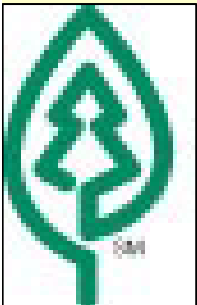
- ❑ Probably around 1900 when it all started – Forests set aside for public benefit.
- ❑ Improving labor conditions in the woods
- ❑ Building America after WWII



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# More


-  Timber dependent Communities
-  PILT
-  The environmental movement of the 60's

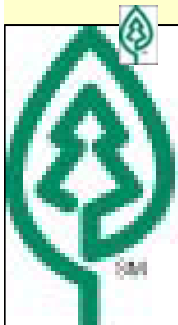


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# The International sustainability movement:

-  The **Bruntland Report** (1987). World Commission on Environment and Development (1987)
-  1992 UNCED-Rio
-  FSC established in lieu of boycott of Tropical Hardwoods. Helps indigenous people.

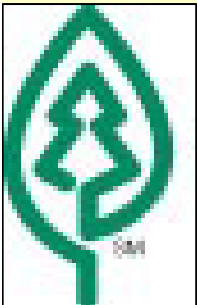
 2002 WSSD



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# It took us a while to get on board

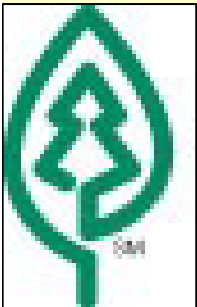
- Some Generalizations (some truth in all):
  - Interest in hard science not that “social stuff”
  - Individualists - want to deal with the forest and not the people
  - Little social foundation in forestry curriculum



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# The International Challenge: Where U.S. forestry falls short

- ❑ Recognizing the importance of the social element within SFM
- ❑ PEFC endorsement requires supporting the ILO (which is not ratified by the United States)



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# What Happened?

- Forest certification became global and needed to address the social challenges in developing countries and countries in economic transition.
- If SFI was to be relevant in this context, we needed to shift our focus away from the trees.
- We did this in the 2005-2009 SFIS

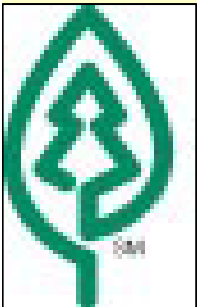


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# The new SFI 2005-2009 Standard

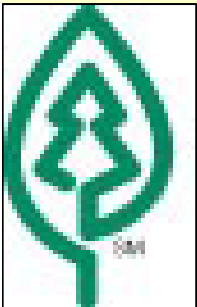
Commitment to comply with social laws, such as those covering civil rights, equal employment opportunities, antidiscrimination and antiharassment measures, workers' compensation.



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# More

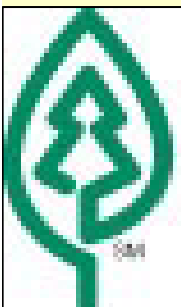
Indigenous peoples' rights, workers' and communities' right to know, prevailing wages, workers' right to organize, and occupational health and safety.



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*Program Participants* with forest management responsibilities on public lands shall confer with affected indigenous peoples.

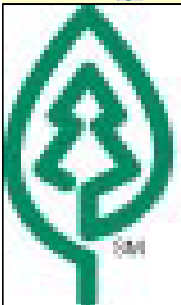
- ❏ *Program* that includes communicating with affected indigenous peoples to enable *Program Participants* to
- ❏ understand and respect *traditional forest-related knowledge*;
- ❏ identify and protect spiritually, historically, or *culturally important* sites



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# Domestic and International Procurement

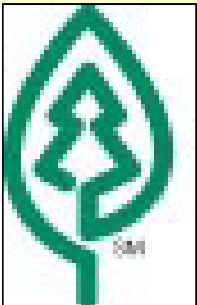
- 🌿 **Performance Measure 8.6.** *Program Participants* shall encourage economically, environmentally, and socially sound practices.
- 🌿 **Indicator:**
- 🌿 Process to assess the risk that the *Program Participant's procurement* takes place in countries without effective laws addressing the following:
  - 🌿 workers' health and safety;
  - 🌿 fair labor practices;
  - 🌿 indigenous peoples' rights;
  - 🌿 antidiscrimination and antiharassment measures;
  - 🌿 prevailing wages; and
  - 🌿 workers' right to organize.
- 🌿 2. *Program* to address any significant risk identified under 8.6.1.



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# It took us a while to get it

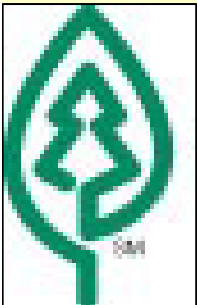
- ❏ In fact, many foresters are downright uncomfortable about it – Forest Certification should be about forestry not “social stuff”
- ❏ The great social force inherent in Sustainable Forest management.
  - ❏ 1.6 Billion People rely heavily on forest resources for their livelihoods



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# Forestry seen as the answer, not the problem

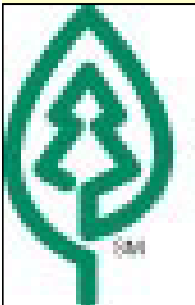
Un-FAO, "Without investment in people-centered forestry, other measures to tackle poverty and improve poor peoples livelihoods will be undermined"



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# Forests Contribute to:

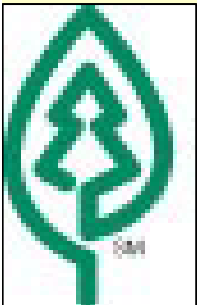
- 🌿 Food Security
- 🌿 commercial and employment opportunities
- 🌿 Development of good governance
  - 🌿 Partnerships
- 🌿 Environmental stability



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# One Take Away

- Forestry is all about social benefits and supporting people. That's why it is viewed so positively in the rest of the world.
- Let's not shy away from this – let's shout it from the roof tops.



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# Thanks

Sustainable Forestry Board - **Diverse Perspectives  
Creating a Common Vision**

1800 N. Kent Street ( suite 1120)

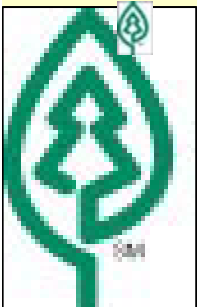
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