

Forest Certification
Part 2

Certification Schemes

Descriptions & Comparisons



- **Certification Systems**
- **Characteristics of Systems**
- **How Systems Work**
- **Costs and Benefits**

American Tree Farm System

Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

Forest Stewardship Program (USFS)

Green Tag (Nat. Forestry Association)

ISO 14001 (Int. Standards Org.)

Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)



ISO 14001

sets internationally accepted standards for auditing environmental programs

focus

- accountability for 1st party claims
- improving performance

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Green Tag (Nat. Forestry Association)
Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)

Basic Components

- principles or criteria
- structured management plan
- plan approved by professional (certifier)
- periodic review

Systems Vary

- scope of criteria
- plan - rigor or detail
- type of professional reviewer
- rigor of review / assessment
- costs and benefits

What Type of Certification?

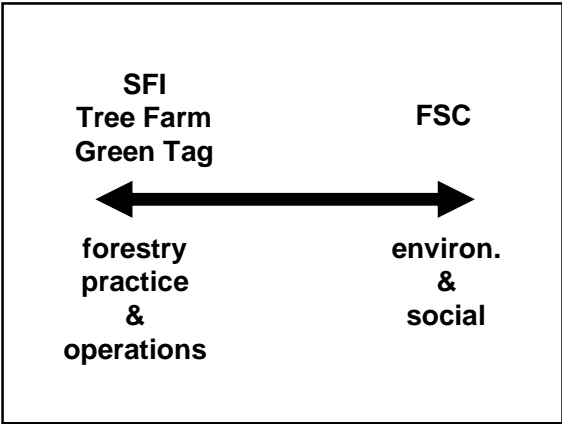
- 1st-party: internal assessment by an organization
- 2nd-party: assessment by customer or outside trade association
- 3rd-party: on-site assessment by neutral organization, based on accepted set of standards

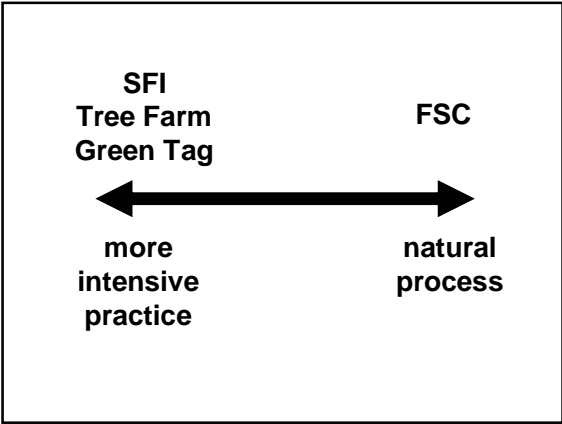
Barret 1993, Ervin, Elliot, Cabarle, and Synnott 1996

Tree Farm	1941	US
FSC	1994	Global
Stewardship	1993	US (south)
Green Tag	1998	US
SFI	1996	US

	Principles	Verification
Tree Farm	2nd	2nd
FSC	3rd	3rd
Stewardship	2nd	2nd
Green Tag	2nd	3rd
SFI	2nd	3rd

**All systems
were designed
to achieve sustainable use
over the long-term.**





American Tree Farm
Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI)
Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)
USFS Forest Stewardship
Green Tag

Forest Stewardship Program
USFS program run through
state & private forestry

partnership
with state
agencies



Forest Stewardship Program

<http://www.r8web.com/>

state contacts
available





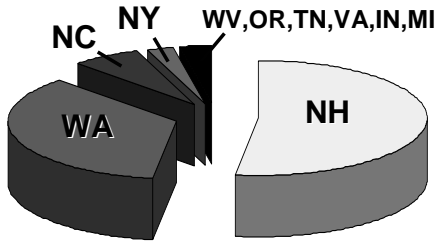
Green Tag
**Specifically
for
NIPF owners**

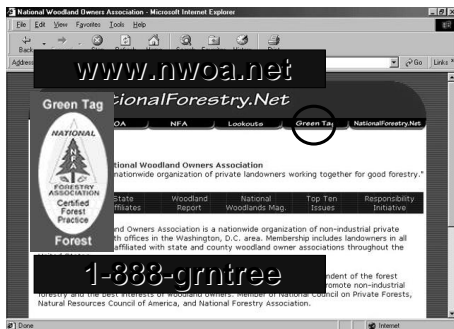
- 10 principles
 - generally aligned with FSC
- certifiers - consulting foresters



- Plans and Ownership
- Inventory and Diversity
- Logging and Reforestation
- Roads and Stream Crossing
- Utilization and Aesthetics
- Chemical Utilization
- Social Component
- Economic Viability
- Record Keeping
- Sustainability

51,795 acres 10 states



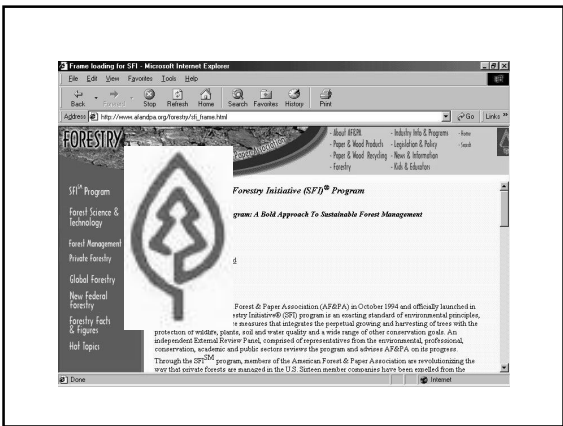



SFI designed by forest industry for use on industrial lands

Tree Farm agreement with AF&PA
i.e. accepted as SFI certified

FSC designed for all ownerships
however – cost and some criteria are easier for larger ownerships







SFI

- 100 million acres
- 89 million acres - 3rd
- 190 firms
- 92% from trained loggers
- oversight board
- 11 Standards



SFI

Objectives or Standards

- Performance Measures
 - Core SFI Indicators
 - Other SFI Indicators



- **Ensuring Sustainable Forests**
- **Reforestation**
- **Water Quality**
- **Wildlife Habitat**
- **Forest Aesthetics**
- **Protect Special Sites**
- **Slash Disposal and Utilization**
- **Contractor/Owner Support**
- **Public Reporting**
- **Community Participation**
- **Continuous Improvement**



Example

Forest Aesthetics: manage visual impact

- specified in plans & programs
- clearcut size < 120 acres
- green up 3-yr-old or 5'
- age classes and harvest units
- promote landscape diversity



Example

- **specified in plans & programs**
 - written policy
 - aesthetic considerations are incorporated into activities
 - aesthetic BMPs are followed
 - landscape design system
 - train foresters and loggers
 - terrain and computer models



American Tree Farm System

oldest most wide spread system in the US



Certified Tree Farmers



- 65,000 individuals
- 25 million acres
- 7,000 Inspectors



10 principles

Trained Inspectors Used

3rd Party Audit Underway



- Sustainable Forests
- Reforestation
- Water Quality
- Wildlife Habitat
- Use of Chemicals
- Forest Aesthetics
- Protect Special Sites
- Biodiversity
- Slash Utilization
- Forestry Contractor Use



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Examples

Ensure Sustainable Forests

- **written and active forest management plan**
 - wood and fiber production
 - wildlife habitat
 - water quality
 - recreational opportunities



Examples

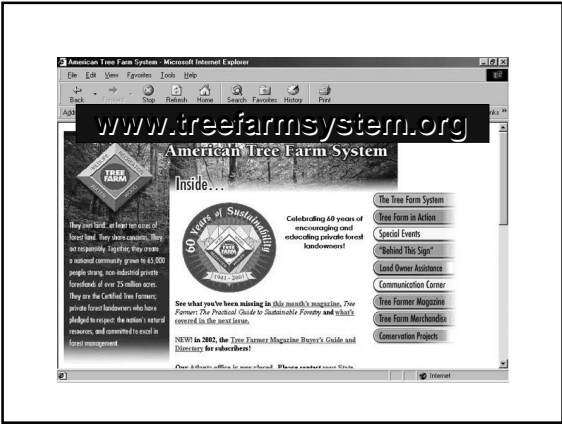
Reforestation

- **adequate stocking of regeneration in 5 years**
 - natural seeding and sprouting
 - direct seeding and seedlings

Water Quality

- **state Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs)**






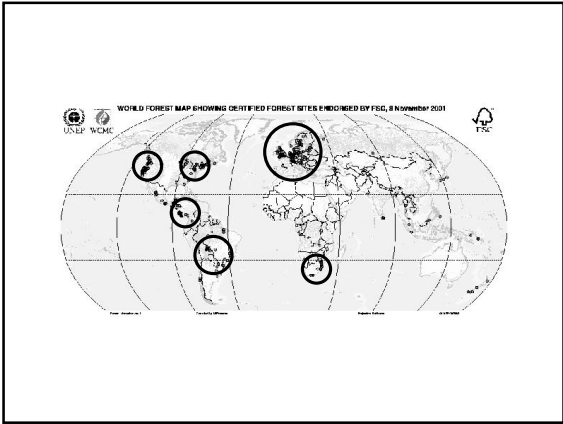



Forest Stewardship Council

global green or eco-label



- 8 ½ million acres in US
- 60 million acres globally
- 392 chain-of-custody in US



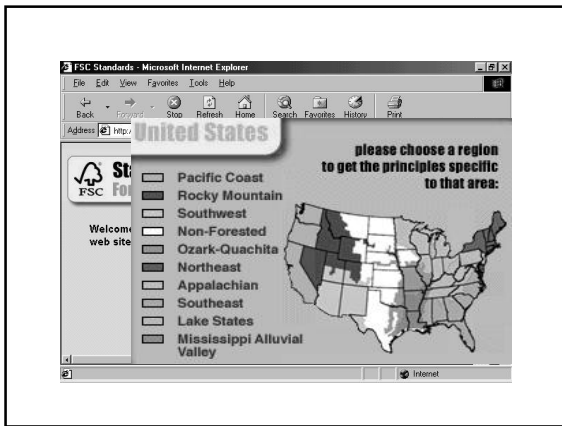


10 Global Principles

- 56 Criteria
 - 138 Indicators: national and regional
 - Verifiers: regional

- Comply with Laws
- Tenure and Use Rights
- Indigenous Peoples' Rights
- Relations and Workers Rights
- Benefits from Forest
- Environmental Impact
- Management Plan
- Monitoring
- High Conservation Forests
- Plantations

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Example

Environmental Impact

- Assessment
- Safeguards for Rare Species
- Ecological Functions Maintained
- Samples of Ecosystem Protected Water and Soil Protection
- Promote Nonchemical Methods
- Bio. Controls Monitored no GMOs
- Exotic Species Controlled
- Conversion to Plantations not Allowed

How Certification Works

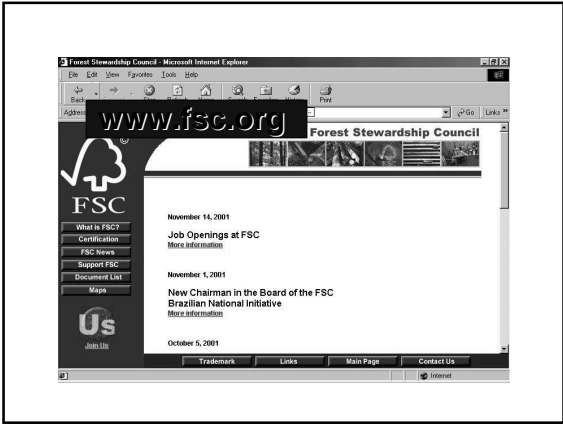
- Application
- Scoping
- Certifier
 - (SmartWood or Scientific Certification Services)
- Data Collection, Interviews, etc.
- Peer Review of Certification
- Final Certification Decision

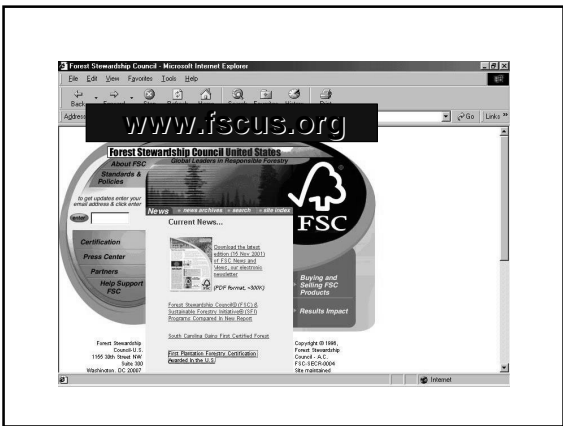
FSC and NIPF Owners

- individual
- group or cooperative
- resource managers
(individual owners are certified through the resource manager and costs are distributed among his clients)

FSC Potential

- easier in natural hardwood forests than southern pine
- high quality sawlog/veneer production more certification friendly
- resource manager certification





Contrast Clearcuts

<p>SFI</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 120 acres maximum, greater for natural disturbances 	<p>FSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● no complete clearcuts in natural stands ● retention to mimic natural disturbance ● 40 acres in plantations
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Contrast Chemicals

SFI

- follow label

FSC

- certain chemicals banned
- show prudent use and reduction in chemical use

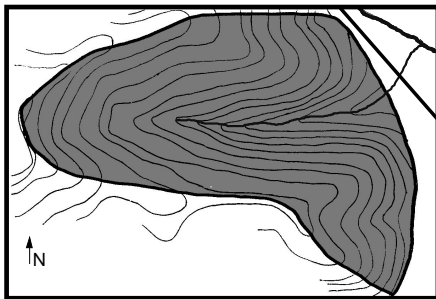
Contrast Plantations

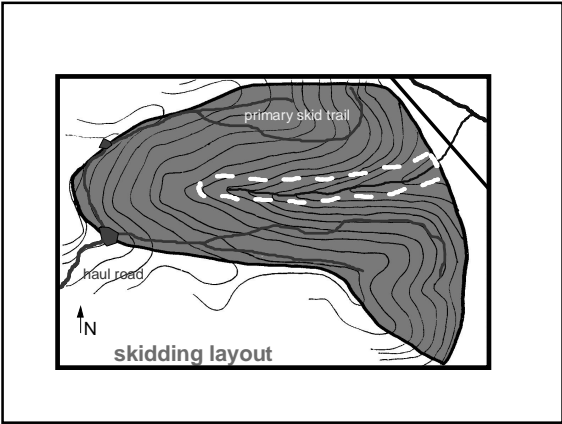
SFI

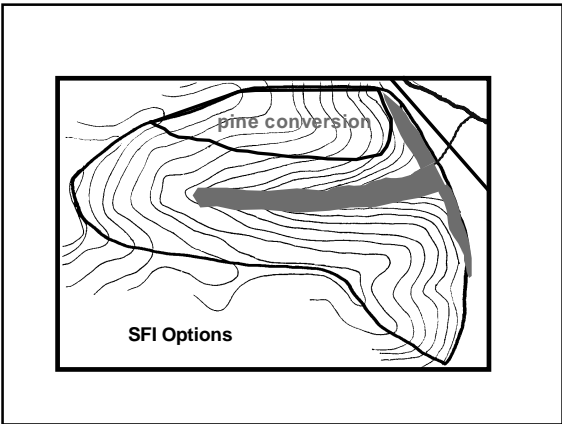
- any amount
- prudent use of pesticides
- GMO's allowed

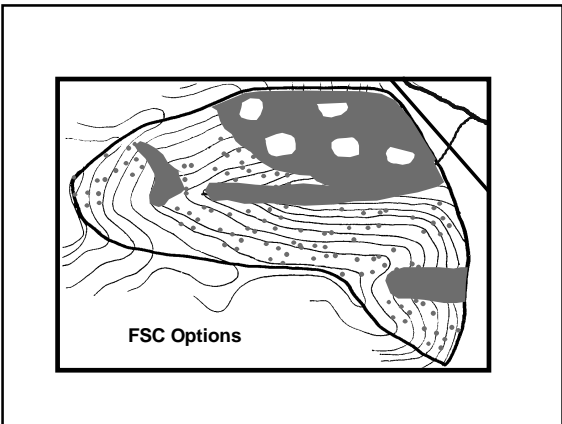
FSC

- no new conversions
- old plantations before 1994 OK
- restricted pesticides
- local sources









SFI – FSC Comparison
Meridian Institute
www.merid.org/comparison

Initial Costs?

- **FSC**
 - individual: \$5,000 to \$10,000
 - resource manager: < \$5,000
 - time required to prepare
 - periodic review: > \$1,000

Initial Costs?

- **Tree Farm**
 - nominal assessment fees

Systems and NIPF Owners

Tree Farm	entry level
FSC	group or manager
Stewardship	entry level
Green Tag	NIPF certification
SFI	industry licensee
