



## **Transition to SFI 2010-2014: Frequently Asked Questions**

SFI Inc. has published revised requirements for the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Standard, now called “SFI 2010-2014 Standard”. Certified organizations have all of 2010 to make the transition, with some implications extending into future years.

### **Q. Does this change apply to my organization or certificate?**

A. Only if you currently hold a certificate for SFI 2005-2009, which pertains to organizations certified for forest land management and/or for the procurement of primary forest products (trees, logs, etc).

- Organizations certified for SFI or PEFC Chain of Custody are not affected.
- Organizations certified for SFI Fiber Sourcing (aka “Annex One”) are also not affected.

### **Q. Are the requirements significantly different?**

A. Generally no, but this can depend on your situation.

- Perhaps the biggest change is that certificates will expire after 3 years.

### **Q. How do I learn about the changes?**

A. The SFI 2010-2014 Standard is contained within a new document “Requirements for the SFI 2010-2014 Program: Standards, Rules for Label Use, Procedures, & Guidance” available from the SFI website

[http://www.sfiprogram.org/sustainable\\_forestry\\_initiative\\_standard.php](http://www.sfiprogram.org/sustainable_forestry_initiative_standard.php).

- There is also a link to a document that summarizes the most significant changes [http://www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf/sfi\\_2010-2014\\_summary\\_changes.pdf](http://www.sfiprogram.org/files/pdf/sfi_2010-2014_summary_changes.pdf).

### **Q. What happens during our 2010 Surveillance Audit?**

A. Your NSF Lead Auditor will use a checklist designed to differentiate the new and existing requirements. Because you have until the end of 2010 to fully conform, any “advisory” non-conformances against the new requirements will not adversely affect re-registration. You will have to describe how you will make changes to meet all relevant requirements by the end of the year. If your audit is before March 31 then any “advisory non-conformances” will not be reported; after that date they must be listed in the Public Audit Report.

### **Q. My certificate expires in 2010, with a Re-Certification Audit planned. How will that work?**

A. After March 31, 2010 re-registrations use the SFI 2010-2014 Standard, but nonconformances against changes in the revised standard shall be reported but will not adversely affect re-registration.

### **Q. Can you provide more information about the change from 5-year to 3-year certificates?**

A. Certificates will be issued for 3 years, and all current certificates will expire 12.31.2011.

- An option for existing certificates expiring in 2012 or later:  
“Issuance of SFI 2010-2014 Standard certificates may be based on surveillance audit findings but must include assessment of conformance with all relevant elements of SFI 2010-2014 Standard. Expiry date of new certificates issued based on surveillance audits to be the earlier of December 31, 2012 or 5 years after the issuance of the most recent SFI 2005-2009 Standard certificate, at which point a re-registration would be required.”

### **Q. How do I get more information?**

A. Contact Mike Ferrucci, NSF’s Forestry Program Manager by email: [mferrucci@nsf-isr.org](mailto:mferrucci@nsf-isr.org)