BRITISH COLUMBIA'S ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER OF FORESTS AND PROVINCIAL CHIEF FORESTER WRITES OP-ED ABOUT FIRE MITIGATION THAT HIGHLIGHTS SFI

Diane Nicholls, British Columbia’s Assistant Deputy Minister of Forests and Provincial Chief Forester, wrote an op-ed about the BC Government’s commitment to sustainable forest management and its importance in mitigating the impacts of climate change. Nicholls recognized how SFI’s new standard enhancements ensure forest management activities, address climate change adaptation, limit susceptibility of forests to undesirable impacts of wildfire, and raise community awareness of fire benefits, risks, and efforts to minimize damaging wildfires, which all align nicely with the Government of BC’s initiatives.

ADDRESSING WILDFIRE THROUGH FOREST MANAGEMENT

Earlier this year, Paul Trianosky, SFI’s Chief Conservation Officer, wrote in GreenBiz how SFI’s scale translates to enormous benefits relative to forest health, fire risk reduction, and ensuring habitat for species at risk. He notes that certification means that highly trained forest managers are paying attention to vast areas of well-managed forests so that they are climate- and fire-resilient.

SFI STANDARDS INCREASE FOCUS ON MITIGATING CATASTROPHIC FIRE

SFI’s standards address fire by introducing a new SFI Fire Resilience and Awareness Objective. Forest fires have long played a role in the evolution and function of natural ecosystems, but an increase in catastrophic fires have had dire consequences for forests, wildlife, and communities. SFI-certified organizations are now required to limit susceptibility of forests to undesirable impacts of wildfire and to raise community awareness of fire benefits, risks, and minimization measures.

INVESTIGATE THE NATURE OF FIRE WITH THREE NEW DOWNLOADABLE ACTIVITIES

Project Learning Tree’s newest installment in a series of theme-based activity collections explores the nature of fire for educators working with students ages 11 through 13. Invite middle-school youth to investigate wildfire and ecosystem change with three engaging downloadable activities.

SUPPORT STUDENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN FOREST LITERACY AND WILDFIRE

Did you know that PLT Canada’s Forest Literacy Framework explores important forest management concepts by hot topic? Check out the page devoted to wildfire, discover concepts and guiding questions to support student learning, and bookmark this free teaching resource!