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# Opportunities for Certified Wood in Northeastern North Carolina

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# Certification Definitions

- **Standard:** published list of auditable points for an organization or individual to comply with.
- **Third party audit:** an independent organization (from the standard owner and the entity being audited) conducts an audit to a published standard.
- Most Certification Programs require third party audits to claim certification.



# Published standards

- **Tree Farm** - 1941
- **FSC**, Forest Stewardship Council, 1993
- **PEFC**, Program for Endorsement of Forest Certification, 1999
- **SFI**, Sustainable Forest Initiative, 1994
- **SBP**, Sustainable Biomass Program, 2013



# Tree Farm

- Owned and administered by the American Forest Foundation, based in Washington, D. C.
- Founded in 1941
- Covers the US, with State based administration
- Received PEFC endorsement in 1998
- Open to landowners with between 10 and 10,000 acres



# Forest Stewardship Council (FSC)

- Came out of third world countries
- Originally based in Mexico, now in Germany
- 10 Principles governing how organizations deal with people who use the forest and how the forest gets grown, harvested, and transported.
- Of the standards, FSC changes the most
- Global reach, many different formats for forest landowners



# Sustainable Forest Initiative SFI

- SFI started in the United States
- Came out of Forest Industry
- Covers North America
- 13 Principles
- Endorsed by PEFC
- Recognizes Tree Farm wood as certified
- Directed at larger forest landowners (>10,000 acres)



# Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification Systems(PEFC)

- World largest certification system
- Publishes a standard that individual country standards must adhere to.
- Once audited and passed, the individual country standard gets endorsed by PEFC
- Global coverage



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# Sustainable Biomass Partnership

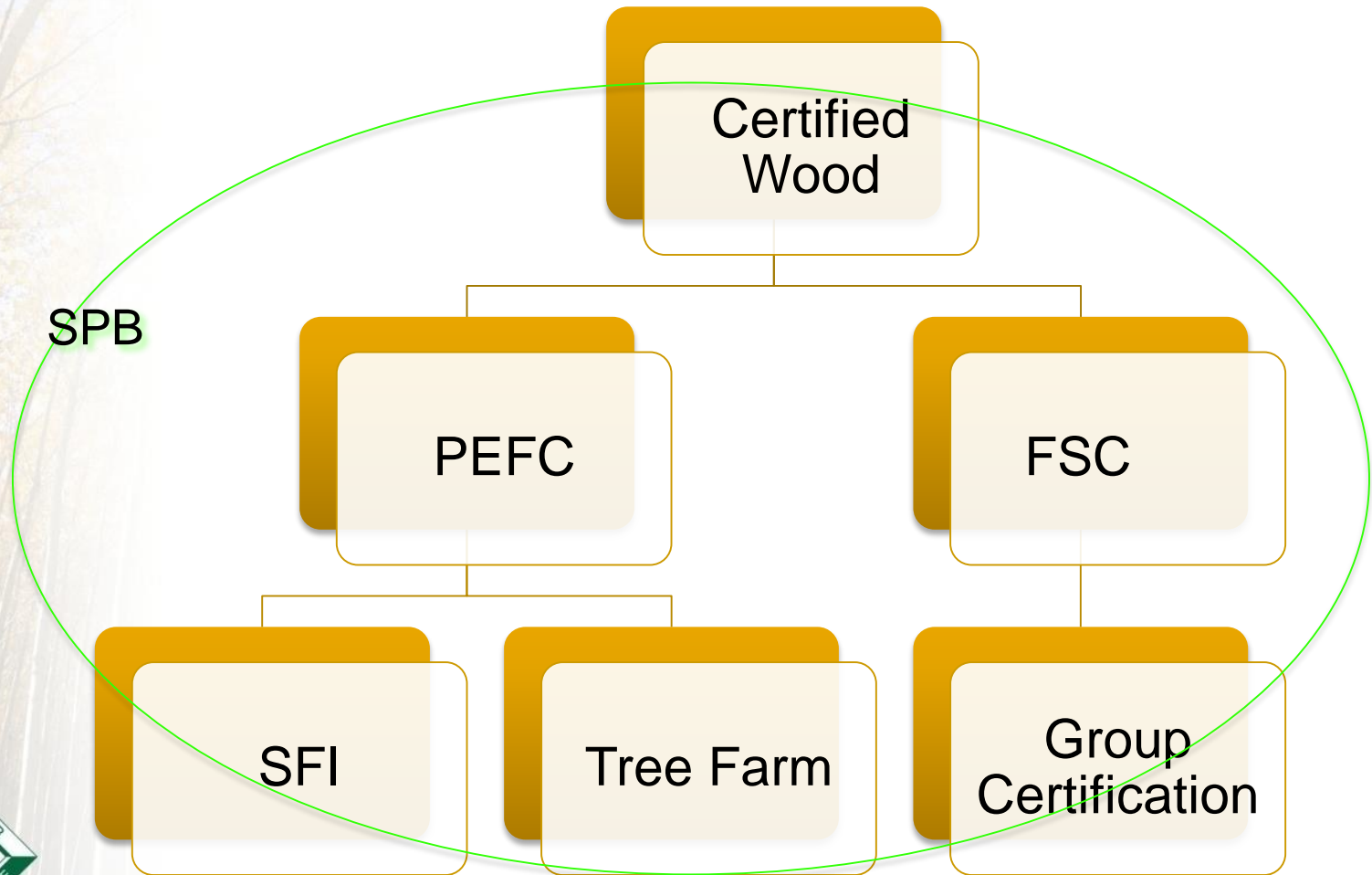
- Global reach
- Recognizes all other certification programs
- Developed to address the strict requirements for Biomass developed to address the European requirements developed to meet the European commitment to reducing greenhouse gas emissions.



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# Certified Wood Opportunities in NC



# Benefits of Certification

- Additional Money for your wood, *rare*
  - Most instances prove the point, how many instances do you know?
  - Usually fleeting - think supply and demand
  - I have heard of instances in this area, both FSC and SFI



# Benefits of Certification

- Once you sell the wood, the buyer may not have to abide by mill quotas for the wood harvested from your property
  - Not so rare
  - Allows tract cleanup, thereby minimizing Site Preparation Costs
  - Can mean more money if selling pay-as-cut



# Benefits of Certification

- Establishes your credibility
  - People can find your listing as a certified entity
- If your auditor finds a problem, you then know what you need to do to pass next time.
- Forces you as a forest landowner to address specific issues that you may not have thought about.



# Benefits of Certification

- Certification programs require loggers be trained
  - Trained on environmental effects of uncontrolled logging and the impacts on water quality
  - Trained on the business of logging
  - Fostered the formation of Professional Logger's Associations



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# Demonstrated Benefits

- Mentioned tract cleanup
- Very rare for direct timber income increase
- Some instances:
  - Reported demand for specific FSC certified wood products that may result in higher stumpage
  - Reported instances of a per unit premium for products
  - Supply and Demand



# Demonstrated Benefits

- Many meetings get sponsored by organizations seeking certified wood products
  - Gives you a chance to attend and network with other timberland owners
  - Find out what works and what does not



# Summation

Timber certification alive and well in eastern NC

- All programs represented
- Certification now a “way of life”
- Direct dollar benefits of certification hard to quantify
- Examples of indirect benefits present
- Improved harvesting contractors





# Questions



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