Standard 8B: Natural Resources and Ecosystem Management

**Principle:** Managing natural resources requires that the provision of ecosystem services, and social and economic demands are balanced with ecosystem sustainability, including ecosystem function, and species and landscape biodiversity across a broad land base. The competencies listed ensure a comprehensive background on the part of the applicant, including understanding the regulatory framework, understanding and implementing strategic, tactical and operational plans, and landscape-level monitoring.

**Demonstrable Competencies and Competency Elements**

Graduates of an accredited forestry program shall be able to:

**8B.1 Discuss the landscape management process, requirements and levels.**
- Components of the landscape management process
- Purpose of landscape-level management planning
- Domestic and global trends
- Concept and applications of sustainability
- Strategic, tactical and operational planning levels

**8B.2 Design environmental/landscape-level plans.**
- Legal and policy requirements
- Stakeholder consultation
- Landscape values (ecological, social, and economic)
- Current landscape conditions
- Management objectives and constraints
- Landscape/forest-level projection models
- Actions (silviculture) used to attain different management objectives
- Performance measurement criteria and methodologies

**8B.3 Develop operational plans.**
- Business and operational objectives and constraints
- Resources required
- Basic operational planning including access, silviculture, protection, use management, etc.