

# FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For: Hancock Cty BOE

Prepared By: Buddy J Cuevas Ms Forestry Commision

Time Period Covered by This Plan: 2011 - 2021

Date Plan Prepared: 2012-02-27

Plan Type: Stewardship / Stewardship

This plan was developed in accordance with the rules of the Stewardship program.

**Property Name: 16-T-9SR-15W** 

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#### LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name: Hancock Cty BOE

Mailing Address: 17304

Hwy 603

City, State, Zip: Kiln, MS 39556

Country: United States of America

Contact Numbers: Home Number:

Office Number: 228-255-4885

Fax Number:

E-mail Address: JPenton@hancock.k12.mf.uf

Social Security Number (optional):

## FORESTER INFORMATION

Name: Buddy J Cuevas, Forestry Technician

Forester Number: 00000

Organization: Ms Forestry Commission

Street Address: P.O.BOX 219
City, State, Zip: Kiln, MS 39556

Contact Numbers: Office Number: 228-255-4885

Fax Number:

E-mail Address:

## PROPERTY LOCATION

County: Hancock Total Acres: 661 Latitude: -89.5 Longitude: 30.26

Section: 16 Township: 9S Range: 15W

## **DISCLAIMER**

This information was derived from a small sampling of the forest resources. It reflects a statistical estimation that is only intended to be accurate enough for the purposes of making decisions for the short-term management of these resources. These estimations are temporally static. Events and circumstances may occur within the survey area that will physically alter the forest resources and therefore will not be reflected in this plan.

#### INTRODUCTION

This Forest Stewardship Management Plan will serve as a guide for accomplishing the goals and objectives for your property. In addition to addressing your specific goals and objectives, this plan includes recommendations for maintaining soil and water quality and protecting your forest from insects, disease, and wildfire. Recommendations are based on observation and assessment of the site.

## **OBJECTIVES**

#### Timber Production

The goal is to produce high quality sawtimber. This will be accomplished through reforestation and timber stand improvement practices such as herbicide applications, prescribed burning, thinning at specified intervals, and other silvicultural practices. Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

## Wildlife Management - General

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suitable for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on developing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished by establishing and maintaining access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and the management of trees located within the Streamside Management Zone

## PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

## General Property Information

This section is located south of Highway 90 and north of Old Lower Bay Road. The section has 344 acres of natural longleaf and slash pine sawtimber on the uplands. There are 100 acres of mixed slash/hardwood sawtimber on the poorly drained soils. There are 205 acres of 7 year old naturally regenerated slash and longlef pine on the lower third of the section.

Twelve acres are non-forest due to a power line and the associated right of way in the southeast corner of the section.

#### Water Resources

No perennial water resources were identified during a reconnaissance of the property. However, intermittent streams and drains identified will be managed in accordance with Mississippi's Best Management Practices.

#### Timber Production

The goal is to maximize the production of high quality timber. This will be accomplished through the application of timely thinning and other silvicultural practices designed to enhance timber quality and growth. Forestry Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent erosion and protect water quality.

## Threatened and Endangered Species

No threatened and endangered species were identified during the reconnaissance and evaluation of your property.

## *Interaction with Surrounding Property*

Prescribed practices should be carried out in a manner that will minimize adverse impacts on surrounding properties. Consideration should be given to potential air, water, visual, and

other impacts. In addition, practices carried out should have positive effects on the surrounding community such as improved wildlife habitat and soil stabilization.

## Archeological/Cultural Resources

No archeological or cultural resources were identified during the reconnaisance of the section.

## GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Forest Protection

A healthy vigorously growing stand is the best defense to an attack form a variety of forest insects, plants and pathogens.

#### Insects and Diseases

Trees are subject to attack from insects and diseases. Different insects and diseases affect trees according to the age, species, and condition of the trees. Planted stands of pines and pure stands of hardwoods are particularly susceptible to attack. Since there are many different insects and diseases, no attempt will be made here to explain all of them. The property should be inspected at least annually for possible signs of insect and disease activity. Some things to look for are:

- Unseasonable leaf fall
- Discoloration of leaves or needles
- Pitch pockets on pine trees
- · Heavy defoliation of hardwood leaves
- Groups of three or more dying trees within a stand

This list does not cover all instances of insect or disease attacks. If anything unusual is noticed, report it to a forester. In most cases, insect and disease problems can be controlled if discovered early.

## Fire Protection

Your forest should be protected from wildfire at all times. The best way to protect your investment is by establishing and maintaining firebreaks around the property. Guidelines for establishment and maintenance of firebreaks may be found in Mississippi Forestry Commission publication #107, *Mississippi's Best Management Practices*.

#### Grazing

Tree seedlings should be protected from grazing until such time as the terminal bud of the sapling is beyond reach of livestock. Domestic livestock should be denied access to the tree planting area.

#### **Boundary Lines**

Boundary lines are scheduled to be maintained in 2013 and 2018.

**Note:** Some forest practices may cause temporary adverse environmental or aesthetic impacts. These practices will only cause short-term adverse impacts where they are

installed. Special efforts will be made to minimize adverse effects when carrying out any of the practices. Examples include: site preparation, planting, prescribed fires, firebreak installation and maintenance, road installation and maintenance, pesticide applications and timber harvesting.

## Water Quality Protection

The objective of the landowner is to protect, preserve and enhance all water sources on or transecting the property. This can best be achieved by implementation of Best Management Practices in all aspects of the management of the property.

#### Aesthetics

The goal is to assure that the property is managed in such a way that is aesthetically pleasing to the landowner as well as the community. Activities could include, maintaining buffer strips along the road and adjacent to the home site, planting wildflowers along the road, and trees with attractive fall and spring color along the drive and near the home site.

## Ecological Restoration

Ecological restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has be degraded, damaged, or destroyed. A reconnaissance of the property has been conducted and no ecological restoration activities are recommended at this time.

## Wildlife Mgt. Target Species

The objective of this practice is to provide habitat best suited for the featured or target species. Habitat management will focus on providing food, cover, water, and space to facilitate the target species.

#### Environmental Education

Environmental educational goals are to provide educational opportunities for children and adults through the development of items such as nature trails with tree identification markers, wildlife viewing areas, picnic areas, parking, public restroom facilities.

#### Wildlife Management General

The goal is to provide a diversity of habitats suited for a variety of game and non-game wildlife species. Habitat management will focus on providing a variety of food, cover, water, and space. This will be accomplished, in part, by establishing and maintaining access roads and firelanes, providing openings within the forest, and leaving mast producing and den trees.

#### Timber Management

Timber management goals for this property are to manage timber resources in such a manner as to maximize timber production throughout the life of the stand.

#### Recreation

According to landowner objectives the recreational use of the property could prove to be an avenue for personal enjoyment or for generating income. An evaluation of your

property should be conducted and a plan developed to accomplish your specific goals for recreational activities on your property.

## **STRATA**

Strata 1 (Stand 3)

## Strata Description

This strata is composed of 344 acres of naturally occurring mixed slash and longleaf pine in the sawtimber size class. The strata is on average 29 years old. The current basal area is 49 with 60 trees per acre. Some areas on this section are naturally regenerating.

#### Strata Recommendations

This strata is scheduled to receive a seed tree removal harvest in 2017. Following this final harvest, those areas devoid of natural regeneration will be chemically site prepared, burned and planted with slash pine.

The sale contract will be structured so as to protect the natural regeneration within the stand. It is estimated that as much as 115 acres may need reforestation activities following the harvest.

## Strata 2 (Stand 1)

## Strata Description

This strata is composed of 100 acres of naturally occurring mixed slash pine and hardwoods. The strata is located on extremely poorly drained soils and as a result will be managed as a streamside size management zone.

#### Strata Recommendations

As a result of this strata's inoperability, it will be managed in accordance with Mississippi's Best Management Practices as a streamside management zone.

In extreme drought, the strata may be scheduled for a harvest if adjacent stands are scheduled for harvesting.

## Strata 4 (Stand 4)

## Strata Description

This strata is composed of 205 acres of naturally occurring uneven aged slash and longleaf pine regeneration. The strata received a seed tree removal harvest in 2013 and currently averages 650 trees per acre. The saplings range from 2 years old to seven years old, with seven years being the average.

## Strata Recommendations

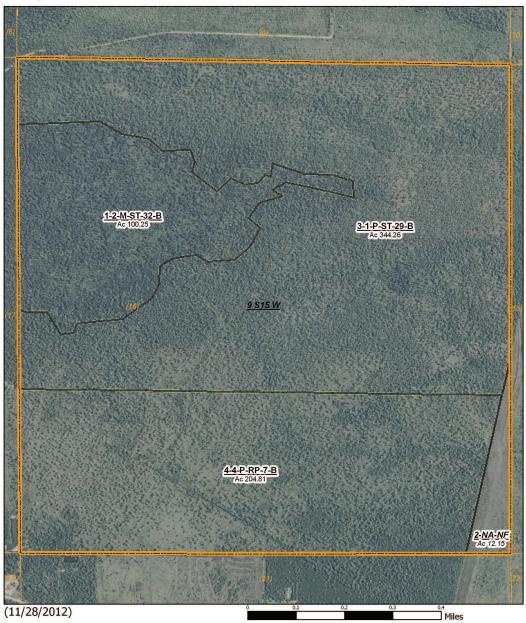
No management activities are scheduled for this strata during the remaining life of this plan.



## **HANCOCK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Section 16, Township 09S, Range 15W 2012 to 2021 640 Acres





## Stand Activity Schedule for Hancock Cty BOE 16 9S 15W

Strata	Stand	Activity		Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue		
2017								
1	3	Harvest, Mechanical, Seed Tree, Machine, Slash		344	\$12,040.00	\$212,550.72		
			Yearly Totals	344	\$12.040.00	\$212.550.72		
2018								
1	3	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Machine, Slash		115	\$9,775.00	\$0.00		
1	3	Site Preparation, Other, Burn, Hand, Debris		115	\$2,875.00	\$0.00		
1	3	Site Preparation, Chemical, Broadcast, Aerial, Combination		115	\$9,200.00	\$0.00		
			Yearly Totals	345	\$21.850.00	\$0.00		
			Grand Totals	689	\$33.890.00	\$212,550.72		