



Vision • Commitment • Pride

FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For:
Holmes County Schools BOE

Prepared By:
Mac Ables
Miss. Forestry Comm.

Time Period Covered by This Plan:
2012 - 2021

Date Plan Prepared:
2012-02-15

Plan Type:
Stewardship / Stewardship

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

Property Name: Ebenezer Section

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LANDOWNER INFORMATION	3
FORESTER INFORMATION	3
DISCLAIMER	3
INTRODUCTION	3
OBJECTIVES	4
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	4
GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS	5
SOIL TYPES	8
STRATA	9
OTHER PLAN ACTIVITIES	11
PLAN MAP	12
PLAN MAP	13
PLAN MAP	14
PLAN MAP	15
PLAN MAP	16
STRATA ACTIVITY SCHEDULE	17

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FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Name: Holmes County Schools BOE
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 630
City, State, Zip: Lexington, MS 39095
Country: United States of America
Contact Numbers: Home Number:
Office Number: 662-834-2175
Fax Number:

E-mail Address:
Social Security Number (optional):

FORESTER INFORMATION

Name: Mac Ables , Servicer Forester
Forester Number: 02368
Organization: Miss. Forestry Comm.
Street Address: P.O. Box 483
City, State, Zip: Lexington, MS 39095
Contact Numbers: Office Number: 662-834-3467
Fax Number:

E-mail Address: mables@mfc.state.ms.us

PROPERTY LOCATION

County: Holmes Total Acres: 641 Latitude: -90.1 Longitude: 32.97
Section: 16 Township: 13N Range: 2E

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.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

OBJECTIVES

Fire Protection

The goal is to protect the resource from wildfires, by establishing and maintaining firebreaks around the property; annually inspect possible signs of insect infestations and disease; and prohibit grazing until terminal bud is beyond reach of livestock.

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 in Ebenezer, MS about 10 miles South of Lexington. Access is good from the Coxburg Road and Johnson Road. It is near the Yazoo County line, located in the loess bluff area. Most of the area is best suited to growing Loblolly Pine. In April 2009, this section took a direct hit from a class 5 tornado. All merchantable standing timber on this section was completely destroyed. A salvage harvest was done on the section to harvest any and all timber that could be salvaged.

Water Resources

There are three intermittent streams located on this property. These streams run through stand #'s 6, 21 and 15. An intermittent stream is defined as a water course that flows in a well defined channel during wet seasons of the year but not the entire year. They occasionally exhibit signs of water velocity sufficient to move soil material, litter and fine debris. These streams must be managed in accordance with the Mississippi Best Management practices. These streams will be managed as an SMZ's during any silvicultural practice.

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.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Threatened and Endangered Species

No threatened and endangered species were identified during the reconnaissance and evaluation of this property. This property was evaluated on December 12, 2011 for endangered species. For more information on endangered species in your area, you may visit: museum.mdwfp.com/science/ms_endangered_species.html

Archeological and Special Sites

This property was evaluated for Archeological and special sites on December 12, 2011. During the evaluation, there were no sites located throughout the property. For more information on historic preservations, contact the Mississippi Department of Archives and History or visit <http://mdah.state.ms.us/hpres>.

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.

Soils General

Soils were evaluated on the property to determine the suitability of the site for the proposed activities. Forest practices were planned so as to minimize erosion or other adverse effects on the soil. The following soils are identified for this property: Morganfield, Memphis and Loring components.

GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

Forest Protection

A healthy vigorously growing stand is the best defense to an attack from a variety of forest insects, plants and pathogens. Practices such as thinning in pine stands or marked timber sales in hardwoods are often recommended. Once a stand has reached its maximum density, the growth rate begins to decline. Once the growth rate declines, the overall health of the stand begins to decline. Thinning or marked timber sales reduce the stand density, allowing the growth rate to increase thus increasing the overall vigor of the stand. Prescribed burning is often recommended to reduce hardwood competition within pine stands. A reduction in competition will assist in a faster growth rate thus creating a healthy vigorous stand.

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:

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 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

It is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure that all property lines and boundaries designating areas to receive forestry work are clearly identified and visible to all contractors.

Boundary lines should be painted around entire section in 2011 and 2016.

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.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Ecological Restoration

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

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.

Several practices can be carried out throughout this property to help increase wildlife habitat. Early successional plants made up of native grasses are beneficial to wildlife. These early successional habitats provide forbs, and shrubs that are low to the ground and extremely beneficial to smaller wildlife species. A balance of grasses, forbs and shrubs should be maintained along road sides, fire breaks and open areas throughout the property. Recommended practices to maintain a well balanced plant community are disking and burning.

ACCESS ROADS : Access roads and fire breaks often give opportunity for vegetation management. Areas that exceed in width along access roads throughout this property should be disked on a 3 year rotation and managed for native grasses. Disking down existing water bars and water turnouts should be avoided.

FIRE BREAKS: Fire breaks can be managed in many ways. Selected areas where fire breaks are long and narrow can serve as annual food plots or areas to disk and manage for natural warm season grasses. Areas that are not used as annual food plots should be disked on a 3 year rotation to help maintain the early stages of succession. Disking down water bars and water turn outs should be avoided on permanent fire breaks.

OPEN AREAS: Open areas throughout this property should be used for annual seasonal planting or placed on a prescribed burning regime.

- Disking will reduce plant density and releases the natural seedbed to sunlight. This will allow desired natural vegetation to germinate from the seedbed and create a diversity of desired native plants. Disking should be done in the fall or winter on a 3 year rotation. Disking should be done between October-February on a 2-3 year rotation.
- Prescribed Fire Prescribed burning will create a balanced diversity of native warm season grasses that are desired by wildlife. Prescribed fire will also help control undesired hardwoods from regenerating within the open areas. Fire helps to increase food availability by letting more sunlight reach the forest floor, encouraging new growth of native plants. Burning should be done in the spring season on a 2-3 year rotation. March is the

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

recommended month for prescribed fire. For more information on prescribed burning, you may contact your local Mississippi Forestry Commission county office.

- **Seasonal Planting-** Long and narrow food plots are recommended. Food plots should be established in areas where sunlight is not excluded. Once food plots are established, soil testing is highly recommended. A soil test will give the exact prescription for proper fertilization. The abundance and condition of wildlife are related directly to the soil. Proper fertilization will dramatically increase forage production in return providing an abundance of habitat for native wildlife. Open areas can be planted in either/or warm or cool season plants. Warm season plantings can include but not limited to plants such as cowpeas, American jointvetch, alyce clover, or white clover. Cool season plantings can include but not limited to wheat, clovers and oats. Rye grass is not recommended because of its density at ground level after the growing season. Other plants such as Honeysuckle and Common Ragweed are excellent sources of protein and should be fertilized throughout the growing season.
- **Bush Hogging :** Clipping is not recommended. Clipping increases plant density at ground level and is not effective in controlling undesired hardwood species. If clipping is necessary, it should be avoided during the nesting seasons (April 1-August 15th). Clipping is the least desired practice for wildlife management.

Additional publications for wildlife management are attached at the back of this plan. These publications will give additional information on open field management, stem injection, quality vegetation management and controlling non native grasses. You can also visit www.mdwfp.com/privatelands for more information.

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.

SOIL TYPES

LoC2

The Loring component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 5 to 8 percent. This component is on uplands. The parent material consists of loess deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer, fragipan, is 14 to 35 inches. The natural drainage class is moderately well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately low. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is moderate. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 28 inches during January, February, March, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. Loblolly Site Index = 95.

MeD3

The Memphis component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 8 to 40 percent. This component is on uplands. The parent material consists of loess deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is very high. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is not flooded. It is not ponded. There is no zone of water saturation within a depth of 72 inches. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 6e-7e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. Loblolly Site Index = 105.

Mo

The Morganfield component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 2 percent. This component is on flood plains. The parent material consists of silty alluvium deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is high. Shrink-swell potential is low. This soil is occasionally flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 42 inches during January, February, March, April. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 2w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria.

STRATA

Strata 1

Strata Description

Strata # 1: Consist of Stand #'s 6,15,16 and 21.

This strata is made up of 361.66 acres of cutover. This strata took a direct hit from a tornado in April 2009. All merchantable timber was completely destroyed. This strata consists of timber debris from the tornado with very little regeneration present. This strata was chemically site prepped in July, 2011. All woody and herbaceous regeneration is presently dead fuel as of December 12, 2011.

Strata Recommendations

This strata should be site prepped and replanted back to loblolly pine. This strata should be managed on a 35 year rotation using sound forestry management practices.

Activity Recommendations

Site Preparation

A Site Prep Burn is recommended for this strata in order to reduce both herbaceous and woody vegetation for planting access. A prescribed burning plan will be

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

developed by the Mississippi Forestry Commission and followed in the application of the burn. Because of equipment, personnel and weather requirements, the application of a prescribed fire is limited to only those days that meet requirements of the burning plan. The prescribed burn must be conducted before planting can be administered.

Regeneration and Survival

Planting:

It is recommended for this area to be planted to Loblolly Pine. Following the site preparation, this strata should be hand planted on a 7 X 9 spacing at 691 seedlings per acre. Seedlings should be genetically improved seedlings and should be stored and handled under the proper conditions. Planting should be done during the normal planting season of December 31 and March 13. Tree planting jobs will be inspected by the Mississippi Forestry Commission to ensure adequate stocking and a proper planting job. Adverse weather conditions such as prolonged dry or cold periods should be taken into consideration when planting. Eighty-five percent of the prescribed planting rate per acre must be planted correctly.

Survival:

A survival check should be conducted by the Mississippi Forestry Commission in the following fall after the planting has been complete. A survival check should be conducted to ensure adequate stocking per acre so the strata will be a maximum production per acre. If survival is low, the strata should be considered for supplemental planting the following planting season. If strata is deemed fully stocked and survival is at an acceptable level, there should be no more activities for this strata during the life of this plan.

Strata 2

Strata Description

Strata # 2: Consist of Stand #'s 1,5,12,18, and 22.

This strata is made up of 12.35 acres of natural regeneration. This strata took a direct hit from a tornado in April 2009. All merchantable timber was completely destroyed. This strata consists of small areas and are considered too small for management. This strata is currently regenerating back into Southern Red Oak, Water Oak, Cherry Bark Oak, Willow Oak, Loblolly Pine, Hickory, and Sweetgum.

Strata Recommendations

This strata should be left alone and managed as is over the life of this plan. This strata should be reforested by natural regeneration and should be managed on a 50 year rotation. This strata should have no activities during the life of this plan.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

OTHER PLAN ACTIVITIES

Boundary Lines

Line Description

It is the responsibility of the School Board to assure all boundary lines are correctly established. Each corner should be adequately identified with significant corner markers. It is the responsibility of the School Board to assure all boundary lines are correctly established. Each corner should be adequately identified with significant corner markers. Boundary lines should be maintained to prevent future disputes of trespassing and prevent future cost of surveying.

Line Recommendations

It is recommended for each boundary line to maintained by the Mississippi Forestry Commission on a 4 year rotation. Boundary lines should be clearly marked in orange boundary line paint in well defined marks. Where applicable, firelanes should be installed on property lines to add access benefits for management activities.

Activity Recommendations

Property Activities

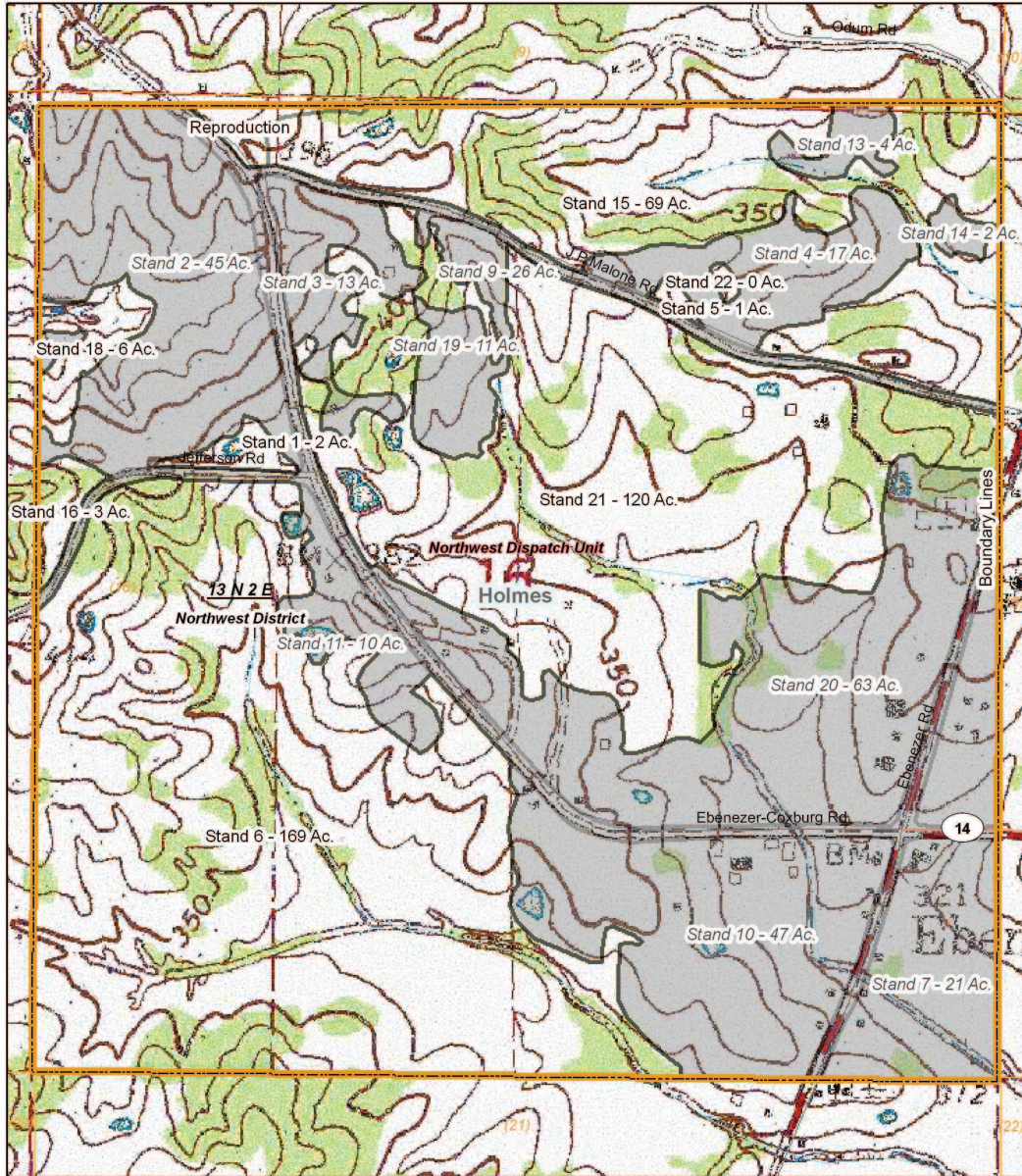
Routine inspections and general maintenance of the roads, Firelanes, and boundary lines will ensure overall appearance and aesthetics of the property.

Topographic Map

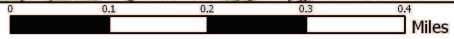


Topographic Map

S16 T13N R2E
2009 to 2018
641.42 Acres
Coxburg Section



(12/12/2011)



Plan Map



Plan Map

S16 T13N R2E
2009 to 2018
641.42 Acres
Coxburg Section

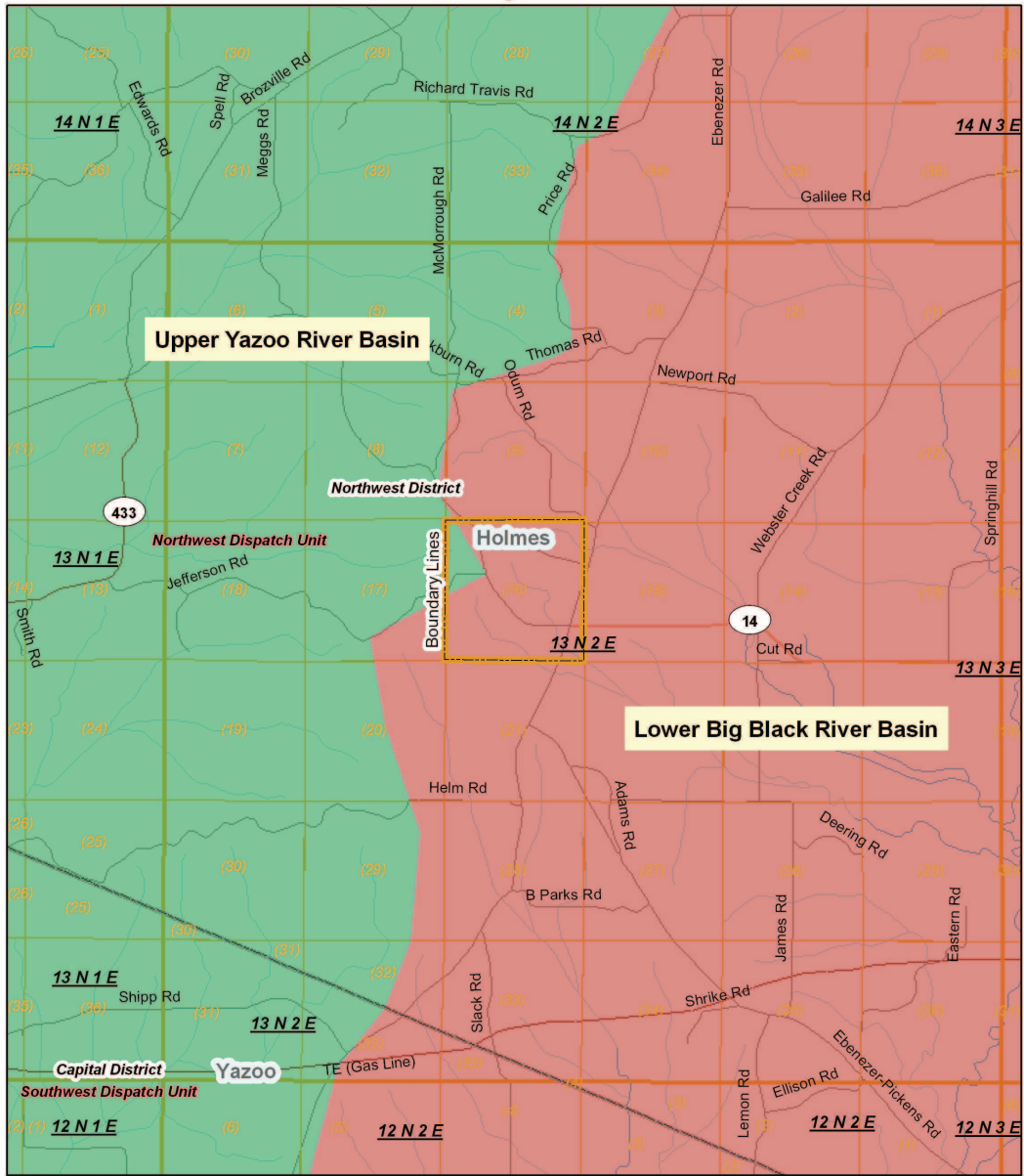


Hydrology Units



Hydrology Units

S16 T13N R2E
2009 to 2018
641.42 Acres
Coxburg Section



(12/12/2011)

Soils Map



Soils Map

S16 T13N R2E
2009 to 2018
641.42 Acres
Coxburg Section



(12/12/2011)

Legend Map

Plan::0045 00017 28051 05022008111136 - Ebenezer Section



Property

Property (1)

Category 1: Stands

Sawtimber (8)

Chip-n-Saw (3)

Category 3: Non-Forest Stands

Non-Forest (16)

MFC Basemap

County Boundary

County Boundary (1)

Quadrangle Grid

USGS Quad (1)

PLS Townships

PLS Townships (1)

Survey Districts

District 2 (1)

Blockgroup (Census 2000)

Blockgroup (Census 2000) (2)

Block (Census 2000)

Block (Census 2000) (6)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000) (2)

County Roads

County Roads (8)

US/State Highways

State Highway (1)

School Sections

School Sections (1)

Public School Districts

HOLMES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (1)

US Congressional District

US Cong Dist #2 (1)

MS Senate

21 (1)

MS House

47 (1)

Intermittent Streams

Intermittent Streams (4)

Hydrologic Units (Basins)

LOWER BIG BLACK RIVER (1)

UPPER YAZOO RIVER (1)

Historic Forest Boundary

Loblolly/Shortleaf Pine-Oak (1)

MS Forest Habitat

DEEP LOESS PLAINS (1)

Physiographic Region

LOESS HILLS (1)

Soil Associations

memphis-loring-collins (1)

Surface Geology

COCKFIELD (1)

JACKSON GROUP (1)

MFC Districts

MFC Districts (1)

MFC Areas

MFC Areas (1)

MS Outline

MS Outline (1)

Stand Activity Schedule for
Holmes County Schools BOE
16 13N 2E

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
2012					
1	6	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Loblolly	169	\$14,395.60	\$0.00
1	6	Site Preparation, Other, Burn, Hand, Combination	169	\$5,927.60	\$0.00
1	15	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Loblolly	69	\$5,865.00	\$0.00
1	15	Site Preparation, Other, Burn, Hand, Combination	69	\$2,415.00	\$0.00
1	16	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Loblolly	3	\$292.40	\$0.00
1	16	Site Preparation, Other, Burn, Hand, Combination	3	\$120.40	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			484	\$29,016.00	\$0.00
Grand Totals			484	\$29,016.00	\$0.00