



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: Fisher Sawmill Section

MISSISSIPPI FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

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**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION
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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: 627 Latitude: -89.89 Longitude: 33.24
Section: 16 Township: 16N Range: 4E

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.

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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 3 and 1/2 miles east of the West exit on I-55. Access is excellent from Emory Road, Race Track Road and Finch Road. Terrain is rolling to steep. This full section of timber is best suited to growing Loblolly Pine. This property has 45.86 acres that are classified as non forested acres. These acres are composed of roads, water tower sites, and food plots.

Water Resources

There are two intermittent streams located on this property. These streams run through the Northeast and Southeast corners of the section. 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. There are 4 small ponds on the property. Three are located in the Northeast corner and one is located in the Southwestern side of the section.

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.

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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, 2012 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 Cultural Sites

There is a water tower located in stand #20 off the Molly More Road. This tower is maintained annually. This site should be protected during any and all silvicultural practices.

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: Smithdale and Oaklimer components. For more information regarding the soil types on this property, see the *Soil Types* section in this plan.

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:

- Unseasonable leaf fall

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- 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 in 2014 and 2019.

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.

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

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- 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

SP

The Smithdale component makes up 63 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 12 to 30 percent. This component is on hillslopes. The parent material consists of loamy fluviomarine 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 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 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 7e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. The Providence component makes up 29 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 2 to 15 percent. This component is on uplands. The parent material consists of silty loess over

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sandy marine deposits. Depth to a root restrictive layer, fragipan, is 18 to 38 inches. The natural drainage class is moderately well drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is moderately high. 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 18 inches during January, February, March. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 4e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria.

Oa

The Oaklimeter 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 moderately 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 occasionally flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 24 inches during January, February, March, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 2w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria. Loblolly Site Index = 90.

STRATA

Strata 1

Strata Description

Strata # 1: Consist of Stand #5,7,10,13,17 and 19.

This strata is made up of 512.40 acres of planted Loblolly Pine stands that were established in 1981. The average DBH for this strata is 11.5 inches with an average tree height of 40 feet. This strata has light-moderate hardwood species present. This strata has been thinned to an average of 220 trees per acre.

Strata Recommendations

This strata should be scheduled for a second thinning in 2016. It is recommended for this strata to be placed on a prescribed burning regime beginning in 2012. Prescribed burning should then be administered on 4-5 year rotation after the first initial burn. This strata should be managed on a 35 year rotaion using sound forestry management practices. This strata should be thinned to 100-110 trees per acre leaving the best dominant and co-dominant trees for the residual stand.

Activity Recommendations

Harvest

This strata is scheduled for a second thinning in 2016. This strata should be thinned to 100-110 trees per acre leaving the best trees for a residual stand. Trees that are forked, suppressed and poor in form class should be removed. Mississippi Best Management Practices must be followed during any and all silvicultural practices throughout the life of this plan.

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Fire Protection

A prescribed fire is recommended for this site in order to reduce fuel loading and the potential for a wildfire to occur. A prescribed burning plan must be developed 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. A certified prescribed burning manager must be on site to conduct the burn. Prescribed burning is recommended 2 years after the completion of the first thinning. Prior to burning, this strata should be evaluated to determine if a chemical application is needed to help remove woody competition from the stand. It is recommended for this strata to be placed on a 4 year burning rotation after the first initial burn. Prescribed burning should be applied in the early spring. Burning should be done before April 1st to avoid nesting season of native wildlife. This strata is scheduled for a burn in 2012 and 2018.

Fire Protection

A prescribed fire is recommended for this site in order to reduce fuel loading and the potential for a wildfire to occur. A prescribed burning plan must be developed 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. A certified prescribed burning manager should be employed to conduct the burn. The Mississippi Forestry Commission (on a limited basis) and other certified prescribed burning vendors are available to conduct prescribed burning.

Strata 2

Strata Description

Strata # 2: Consist of Stand #20.

This strata is made up of 68.44 acres of planted Loblolly Pine stands that were established in 2004. This strata is well stocked at 550 trees per acre. This strata was harvested in 2002. A chemical site prep was applied and followed with a prescribed burn. Planting was done in 2004.

Strata Recommendations

It is recommended for this strata to grow over the next 15-16 years. This strata should be evaluated at age 15 or 16 for a first thin. Once the first thinning is completed, this strata should be placed on a burning regime every 4-5 years after the first initial burn. The first initial burn should be conducted approximately two years after the first thinning is completed.

Activity Recommendations

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Harvest

It is recommended for this strata to be thinned 2020.. This strata should be thinned leaving 200-210 trees per acre of the best dominant and co-dominant Loblolly Pine trees per acre. Trees that are forked, suppressed and poor in form class should be removed. A fourth or fifth row thinning is recommended for this strata or a cutter select corridor that represents a fourth or fifth row thinning scheme.

OTHER PLAN ACTIVITIES

Boundary Lines painted in blue

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. The property lines on this section are scheduled to be marked in 2014 and 2019.

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.

Plan Map



Plan Map
S16 T16N R4E
2012-2021
626.68 Acres



(01/24/2012)

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

Legend



Legend

Property

Property (1)

Category 1: Stands

Chip-n-Saw (6)

Sub-Merchantable (1)

Category 3: Non-Forest Stands

Non-Forest (13)

Boundary Lines

Property (3)

Fire

Silviculture Burn (5)

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) (1)

Block (Census 2000)

Block (Census 2000) (6)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000) (1)

County Roads

County Roads (11)

School Sections

School Sections (1)

Public School Districts

HOLMES COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (1)

US Congressional District

US Cong Dist #2 (1)

MS Senate

24 (1)

MS House

48 (1)

Intermittent Streams

Intermittent Streams (2)

Hydrologic Units (Basins)

UPPER BIG BLACK RIVER (1)

UPPER YAZOO RIVER (1)

Historic Forest Boundary

Loblolly/Shortleaf Pine-Oak (1)

Oak-Hickory-Magnolia-Poplar (1)

MS Forest Habitat

DEEP LOESS HILLS AND BLUFFS (1)

Physiographic Region

North Central Hills (1)

Soil Associations

smithdale-providence-collins (1)

Surface Geology

COOK MOUNTAIN (1)

KOSCIUSKO (1)

MFC Districts

MFC Districts (1)

MFC Dispatch Units

MFC Dispatch Units (1)

MS Outline

MS Outline (1)

Soils Map



Soils Map

S16 T16N R4E
2012-2021
626.68 Acres



(01/24/2012)

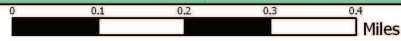
Hydrology Units

Hydrology Units

S16 T16N R4E
2012-2021
626.68 Acres



(01/24/2012)



Topographic Map



Topographic Map

S16 T16N R4E
2012-2021
626.68 Acres



(01/24/2012)

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles

Stand Activity Schedule for
Holmes County Schools BOE
16 16N 4E

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
2012					
1	5	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	103	\$2,570.75	\$0.00
1	7	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	33	\$835.50	\$0.00
1	10	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	1	\$16.75	\$0.00
1	13	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	249	\$6,224.25	\$0.00
1	17	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	34	\$847.25	\$0.00
1	19	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	93	\$2,315.50	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			512	\$12,810.00	\$0.00
2016					
1	5	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	103	\$3,605.00	\$31,543.75
1	7	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	33	\$1,169.70	\$10,234.88
1	10	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	1	\$23.45	\$205.19
1	13	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	249	\$8,713.95	\$76,247.06
1	17	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	34	\$1,186.15	\$10,378.81
1	19	Harvest, Mechanical, Thin, Machine, Loblolly	93	\$3,241.70	\$28,364.88
Yearly Totals			513	\$17,939.95	\$156,974.56
2018					
1	5	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	103	\$2,570.75	\$0.00
1	7	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	33	\$835.50	\$0.00
1	10	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	1	\$16.75	\$0.00
1	13	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	249	\$6,224.25	\$0.00

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
1	17	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	34	\$847.25	\$0.00
1	19	Fire Protection, Other, Burn, Hand, Fuel Reduction	93	\$2,315.50	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			512	\$12,810.00	\$0.00
2020					
2	20	Harvest, Mechanical, 1st Thin, Machine, Loblolly	68	\$2,380.00	\$10,200.00
Yearly Totals			68	\$2,380.00	\$10,200.00
Grand Totals			1.605	\$45,939.95	\$167,174.56