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# FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For:  
Humphreys County Schools

Prepared By:  
Wesley James Howard  
MS Forestry Commission

Time Period Covered by This Plan:  
2012 - 2021

Date Plan Prepared:  
2012-02-13

Plan Type:  
Stewardship / Stewardship

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

**Property Name: S16-T14N-R3W**

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**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**LANDOWNER INFORMATION**

Name: Humphreys County Schools  
Mailing Address: 401 4th st  
City, State, Zip: Belzoni, MS 39038  
Country: United States of America  
Contact Numbers: Home Number:  
Office Number: 662-247-6000  
Fax Number: 662-247-6004  
  
E-mail Address:  
Social Security Number (optional):

**FORESTER INFORMATION**

Name: Wesley James Howard , Service Forester  
Forester Number: 02521  
Organization: MS Forestry Commission  
Street Address: 9600 Hwy 17  
City, State, Zip: Carrollton, MS 38917  
Contact Numbers: Office Number: 662-237-6732  
Fax Number:  
E-mail Address: whoward@mfc.state.ms.us

**PROPERTY LOCATION**

County: Humphreys    Total Acres: 643    Latitude: -90.51    Longitude: 33.06  
Section: 16    Township: 14N    Range: 3W

**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**

*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*

Section 16\_T14N\_R3W is +/- 642 acres of agriculture fields, bottomland hardwood forest, Fish Lake, and sloughs. The forested consists of 239 acres. Timber consists of mature bottomland hardwood sawtimber. Dominant species being willow oak and nuttall oak. This section is located approximately 3 miles south of Silver City, Mississippi. The section can be accessed from the southern boundary off of county 157. Property is low with areas that hold water during wet months. Access will become an issue during wet conditions for management activities such as harvesting. Mississippi Best Management Practices will be followed to ensure water quality.

*Water Resources*

Fish Lake is located in the western portion of the section. A large intermittent drainage canal feeds into Fish Lake throughout the central portion of the section. Several other intermittent ditches run through the section. The South boundary contains several sloughs. Mississippi's Best Management Practices will be followed at all times during any management activities.

*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 this property.

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If any threatened and /or endangered species are discovered, immediate management procedures will be applied to protect these sensitive natural resources for future generations.

### *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. Mississippi Best Management Practices will be implemented to prevent any adverse effects.

### *Archeological and Cultural Resources*

No Archeological or Cultural resources were identified during a reconnaissance of the property. However, if Archeological or Cultural resources are discovered anytime on the property special managements measures will be applied immediately in order preserve these sensitive areas.

## GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS

### *Forest Protection*

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

**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.

### *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

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- 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.

### *Water Quality Protection*

The objective of the landowner is to protect, conserve, and enhance all water resources and drainages on or transecting the property. This objective can be met by implementing Mississippi's Best Management Practices in all aspects of management practices. Protection for water resources must be given in order to maintain the water quality. This protection will be done by the use of stream side management zones (SMZ's) as well as following all Mississippi Best Management Practices.

### *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 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, "etc".

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*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.

**SOIL TYPES**

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The Forestdale component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 3 percent. This component is on natural levees. The parent material consists of clayey alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is poorly drained. Water movement in the most restrictive layer is very low. Available water to a depth of 60 inches is high. Shrink-swell potential is moderate. This soil is rarely flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 15 inches during January, February, March, April. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil meets hydric criteria.

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The Dundee component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 3 percent. This component is on terraces. The parent material consists of loamy alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is somewhat poorly 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 rarely flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 30 inches during January, February, March, April. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 1 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 2w. This soil does not meet hydric criteria.

**STRATA**

*Strata 1*

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**Strata Description**

This 239 acre strata is made up of several stands (#2, #3, #6, #8, #12, #17, #18, #19, and #21). This strata was approximately established in 1943. This stand is a fully stocked bottomland hardwood mixed forest with willow oak and nuttall oak being the dominate species. This strata has a basal area of 124 and 113 trees per acre. This strata contains 73 tons of pulpwood and 56 tons of sawtimber per acre. Fish Lake joins stand #12 on the West side of the stand and runs North.

**Strata Recommendations**

Stand 12 will harvested in 2018 by final harvest method or seed tree method. The strata has reached the management age of 65 years. Stands could begin to decline in growth and yield values and begin to increase in mortality. Harvesting by seed tree method will release the stand and create openings for natural regeneration or final harvesting will allow for capturing the highest monetary value of the stand. The harvesting technique will be based on the amount of natural regeneration of desirable species available at the time of harvest. Seed tree method will be used if enough desirable hardwood species regeneration such as oak is adequate enough to fully restock the stand. Final harvest method will be used if there is not an adequate stocking of natural regeneration. If final harvest method is chosen then the stand will be re-planted with desirable hardwood species to achieve full stocking.

Stand #3 will be managed as Stream Side Management Zones throughout the plan period. Guidelines require a minimum buffer of 35 feet for SMZ zones. No harvesting techniques will occur inside this stand to maintain the requirement of 35 foot buffer around the canal ditch. This will ensure that water quialtiy is keep at the highest quality possible.

Stands 2, 6, 8, 17, 18, 19, and 21 will be monitored periodically to ensure the stands are in good vigor condition and no major transformations have occurred that could alter the goal for future harvesting. These stands will be harvested in the futre but are not cover in this plan period.

**Activity Recommendations**

This strata will be scheduled for a final harvest or seed tree harvest in 2018. IF a final harvest is completed it will be reforested using multiple hardwood species seedlings planted on 12' X 12' (302ac) spacing. It will be managed on a 60 - 80 year rotation. Until harvesting this strata will provide habitat for native wildlife species. After harvest this strata will grow fresh vegetation that will provide new food sources and cover for native wildlife species.

During the time frame of the plan monitoring will be conducted periodically to make sure that the stands are in good vigor condition and no major transformations have occurred that could alter the goal for future harvesting. Over the course of the plan this strata will provide habitat for native wildlife species on the property.



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Harvest

A final harvest or seed tree cut is scheduled for stand 12 in 2018.

Regeneration

Regeneration will be based on the type of harvesting method that is used. If a seed tree harvest is completed then the stand will be regenerated by natural regeneration of unharvested trees. If the stand is final harvested will be replanted on a 12' X 12' spacing (302 ac.) using mixed bottomland hardwood seedling species. The species planted will be determined by the site and soil type.

*Strata 2 (Non-Forest)*

Strata Description

This 402 acre strata consists of stands 1, 4, 5, 7, 9, 70, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 20. Stands 4, 5, 7, 9, 70, 11, 13, 16, and 20 consists of 354 acres of agricultural land. The Humphreys County School board leases this land for agricultural production.

Stand #1 consists of 40 acres of dead timber that resulted from continuous flooding. The flooding was caused by a large beaver dam that was backing one of the larger drain canals in the section. The MFC removed the beaver dam in October of 2011. This stand will be monitored closely for future regeneration of desirable hardwood species.

Stands 14 and 15 consists of 7 acres of sloughs.

Strata Recommendations

The agriculture property is leased out by the Humphreys County School board for agriculture production. The agriculture lease provides an annual income of \$43,200. The agriculture lease provides the highest and best use for this stand. Stand # 1 will be monitored throughout the plan period. If flooding has stopped then regeneration by planting will be considered.

Strata Activities

During the time frame of the plan monitoring will be conducted periodically to insure no damaging activities are occurring that could impact other stands on the section. No activities are planned for the time period of the plan.

Section16\_T14N\_R4W



**Section16 T14N R4W**

Humphreys County, Mississippi  
2012 to 2021  
642.64 Acres



(12/14/2011)

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles



**Section16 T14N R4W**

Property

Property (1)

Category 1: Stands

Sawtimber (9)

Category 3: Non-Forest Stands

Non-Forest (12)

Hydrology (Points)

Beaver Dam (1)

**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) (2)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000) (1)

School Sections

School Sections (1)

Public School Districts

HUMPHREYS COUNTY SCHOOL DIST (1)

US Congressional District

US Cong Dist #2 (1)

MS Senate

22 (1)

MS House

51 (1)

Perennial Streams

Perennial Streams (1)

Intermittent Streams

Intermittent Streams (8)

Hydrologic Units (Basins)

BOGUE PHALIA RIVER (1)

Historic Forest Boundary

Bottomland Hardwood (Oak-Gum-Cottonwood-Cypress) (1)

MS Forest Habitat

MISCELLANEOUS ALLUVIAL FLOODPLAINS (1)

Physiographic Region

Delta (1)

Soil Associations

forestdale-dundee-sharkey (1)

Surface Geology

ALLUVIUM (1)

MFC Districts

MFC Districts (1)

MFC Dispatch Units

MFC Dispatch Units (1)

MS Outline

MS Outline (1)

Stand Activity Schedule for  
Humphreys County Schools  
16 14N 3W

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
<b>2018</b>					
1	12	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	110	\$3,850.00	\$139,260.00
Yearly Totals			110	\$3,850.00	\$139,260.00
<b>2019</b>					
1	12	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Misc Hardwood	110	\$13,750.00	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			110	\$13,750.00	\$0.00
<b>Grand Totals</b>			<b>220</b>	<b>\$17,600.00</b>	<b>\$139,260.00</b>

Stand Activity Schedule for  
Humphreys County Schools  
16 14N 3W

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue	
<b>2018</b>						
1	12	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	110	\$3,850.00	\$139,260.00	
			Yearly Totals	110	\$3,850.00	\$139,260.00
			<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>\$3,850.00</b>	<b>\$139,260.00</b>