



Vision • Commitment • Pride

# 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-T15N-R2W**

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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: 640    Latitude: -90.41    Longitude: 33.15  
Section: 16    Township: 15N    Range: 2W

**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*

Section16\_T15N\_R2W is +/- 640 acres of agriculture fields and bottomland hardwood forest. The forested consists of 475 acres. Timber consists of mature bottomland hardwood sawtimber, pulpwood and reproduction size. Dominate species being willow oak, sweetgum, overcup, and nuttall oak. The section is located approximately 6 miles East of Belzonia, Mississippi. County road 318 runs along the west boundary of the section. Property's topography is low, but is welled drained.

*Water Resources*

Townsend lake is located on the west side of the section. The section drains into the Yazoo River watershed. 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.

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

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*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:

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- 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

Currently boundaries are not clearly marked on the section. Boundaries should be surveyed and clearly marked. Boundaries will need to be established before any management activities such as harvesting can take place. Once the boundaries have been surveyed the MFC will maintain these boundaries.

#### *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.

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*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".

*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*

The Humphreys County School District leases the forested land on the section for hunting opportunities with an annual income of \$10,501.51.

## **SOIL TYPES**

4

The Alligator component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 1 percent. This component is on backswamps. 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 moderate. Shrink-swell potential is very high. This soil is rarely flooded. It is not ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 12 inches during January, February, March, April, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 3w. This soil meets hydric criteria.

## **STRATA**

*Strata 1*

Strata Description

This 392 acre strata is made up of stands 2, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14. This strata was approximately established in 1950. This stand is a fully stocked bottomland hardwood mixed forest with willow oak, overcup oak, sweetgum, and nuttall oak being the dominate species. This strata has a basal area of 129 and 101 trees per acre. This strata contains 83 tons of pulpwood and 72 tons of sawtimber per acre. Townsend Lake resides on the west of stands 9 and 12.

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**Strata Recommendations**

Stands 9 and 13 will be harvested by final harvest method or seed tree method. Stand 9 is scheduled for harvest in 2016 and stand 13 in 2020. The stands will be reaching the management age of 65 years by those 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 stands. 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 the stands will be re-planted with desirable hardwood species to achieve full stocking. The remaining stands will be monitored throughout the course of the plan. Additional stands could be harvested if the stands show signs of high mortality due to over maturity or lack of natural regeneration. The goal of the MFC is to not have clearcuts over 110 acres. It could be necessary to cut larger areas to gain the highest monetary values of the stands.

**Activity Recommendations**

Stands #9 and #13 are scheduled for a final harvest or seed tree harvest. Stand #9 is scheduled for harvest in year 2016 and stand #13 year 2020. If a final harvest is completed it will be reforested using multiple bottomland hardwood species seedlings planted on 12' x 12' (302 trees per acre) spacing. Stands will be managed on a 65 - 80 year rotation age. Until harvesting this strata will provide habitat for native wildlife species. After harvesting the stands will provide fresh vegetation providing new food sources and cover for native wildlife species.

During the time frame of the plan monitoring will be conducted periodically to ensure the stands are in good vigor condition and no major transformations have occurred that could alter the goal for future harvesting.

**Harvest**

A final harvest or seed tree cut is scheduled for stand 9 in 2016 and stand 13 in 2020.

**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*



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**Strata Description**

This 83 acre strata is made up stand 3. This strata is approximately 6 (planted 2006) years old. The stand was final harvested in 2006 and re-planted on a 12 x 12 spacing 302 trees to the acre. The stand was planted with a mixture of bottomland hardwood oak species such as water oak and nuttall oak. Natural regeneration is occurring in the stand. Dominate species found is water oak, nuttall oak, and sweetgum. This stand has an average of 400 trees per acre.

**Strata Recommendations**

There are no activities planned for this strata other than monitoring. This stand is on a 65-80 year rotation age and has not reached maturity. However during the time frame of this plan a management decision of thinning may be made if the strata shows that thinning is necessary to achieve the highest yield value.

**Strata Activities**

During the time frame of the plan monitoring will be conducted at least once annually to make sure that the stands are in good vigor condition and no major transformations have occurred that could alter the goal of reaching maturity. Over the course of the plan this strata will provide food sources and cover for native wildlife species on the property.

*Strata 3 (Non-Forest)*

**Strata Description**

This 164 acre strata consists of stands 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, and 10. Stand 1 and 4 consists of 140 acres of agricultural land and Townsend lake. The Humphreys County School board leases this land for agricultural production. The remaining stands consists of open water and openings for wildlife habitat.

**Strata Recommendations**

Stand 1 and 4 is leased out by the Humphreys County School board for agriculture production. The agriculture lease provides an annual income of \$5,000. The agriculture lease provides the highest and best use for this stand.

**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 planed for the time period of the plan.

Section16-T15N-R2W



**Section16-T15N-R2W**

Humphreys County, Mississippi  
2012 to 2021  
640.40 Acres



(12/16/2011)

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles



**Section16 T15N R2W**

Property

Property (1)

Category 1: Stands

Sawtimber (6)  
 Reproduction (1)

Category 3: Non-Forest Stands

Non-Forest (8)

**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) (1)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000)

Tract/BNA (Census 2000) (1)

County Roads

County Roads (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

48 (1)

Intermittent Streams

Intermittent Streams (1)

Hydrologic Units (Basins)

UPPER YAZOO RIVER (1)

Water Bodies

Water Bodies (1)

Historic Forest Boundary

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

MS Forest Habitat

MISCELLANEOUS ALLUVIAL FLOODPLAINS (1)

Physiographic Region

Delta (1)

Soil Associations

alligator-sharkey-forestdale (1)

Surface Geology

ALLUVIUM (1)

Recreational Facilities

Single / Special Purpose Facility (1)  
 Unique Natural Park/Primitive Natural Park/Recreation Area (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 15N 2W

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
<b>2016</b>					
1	9	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	87	\$3,045.00	\$139,722.00
Yearly Totals			87	\$3,045.00	\$139,722.00
<b>2017</b>					
1	9	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Misc Hardwood	87	\$10,875.00	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			87	\$10,875.00	\$0.00
<b>2020</b>					
1	13	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	102	\$3,570.00	\$163,812.00
Yearly Totals			102	\$3,570.00	\$163,812.00
<b>2021</b>					
1	13	Regeneration, Artificial, Plant, Hand, Misc Hardwood	102	\$12,750.00	\$0.00
Yearly Totals			102	\$12,750.00	\$0.00
<b>Grand Totals</b>			<b>378</b>	<b>\$30,240.00</b>	<b>\$303,534.00</b>

Stand Activity Schedule for  
Humphreys County Schools  
16 15N 2W

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue	
<b>2016</b>						
1	9	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	87	\$3,045.00	\$139,722.00	
			Yearly Totals	87	\$3,045.00	\$139,722.00
<b>2020</b>						
1	13	Harvest, Mechanical, Final, Machine, Misc Hardwood	102	\$3,570.00	\$163,812.00	
			Yearly Totals	102	\$3,570.00	\$163,812.00
			<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>\$6,615.00</b>	<b>\$303,534.00</b>