

MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION

COUNTY WIDE MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR

MOSS POINT SCHOOLS

JACKSON COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

INTRODUCTION: Moss Point School District has 2 sixteenth sections with the Moss Point School Board overseeing these sections. 16-7-6 is totally urban with no forest lands. 16-7-5 contains 320 total acres, of which 133 acres are forested. However, due to site conditions these acres are inoperable year-round, with no activities planned. The stands that comprise the aforementioned 133 acres are described in the following attached plan.

BACKGROUND: The forest management agreement between the Mississippi Forestry Commission and the Moss Point School Board provides for the management of the timberland by the Forestry Commission. The Forestry Commission is to act as the Board's technical advisor on all forestry matters. All work must be explained to and approved by the Board of Education prior to its execution. Work such as timber marking, TSI, burning, firelanes, tree planting, boundary line painting, and other work will be done on an actual cost basis.

FOREST DESCRIPTION: There is one (1) main timber type which dominates the forest of this section; natural slash pine of approximately 50+ years old. The soils are wet with year-round standing water.

MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Silviculture: As previously stated this tract is considered "inoperable", for all practical purposes. Although it may be humanly possible to harvest this stand; the associated costs make it prohibitive. There are also environmental issues related to wetland operations. We see no feasible means to harvest, regenerate, or otherwise manage for timber production on these stands at this time.

There is no feasible work which could be scheduled to improve the long range conditions of this forest area. Although real-estate transactions are not an area of the Mississippi Forestry Commission's expertise; it is suggested that the Board consider looking into such options.

Insects, disease, and water quality: At the present time there are no known forest health problems in the area. The forested areas on 16-7-5 will be inspected from time to time by the Ms. Forestry Commission, to check for forest health issues. If any such issues are discovered, the matter will be brought to the Moss Point School Board's attention, along with our recommended action.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: All public lands will be managed in accordance with the current laws and regulations governing both plants and animals that are considered threatened and/or endangered. Prior to any management activity the tract(s) in question will be surveyed for any known threatened or endangered species. If any species is found on the tract, then the tract will be managed in accordance with the guidelines published for that particular species.

HISTORICAL, CULTURAL OR ARCHAEOLOGICAL ITEMS: Any historical, cultural, or archaeological item that is found on public land will be identified, located, marked and preserved. No silvicultural practice that will damage or destroy these items will be conducted on the site. Sufficient area around the site may be excluded to insure that the site will not be damaged. There are no published lists of items to be preserved. Items would generally consist of old monuments, grave sites, Indian mounds, etc.