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# FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared For:  
Leflore County BOE

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: S15\_T22N\_R1W**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

LANDOWNER INFORMATION .....	3
FORESTER INFORMATION .....	3
DISCLAIMER .....	3
INTRODUCTION .....	3
OBJECTIVES .....	4
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION .....	4
GENERAL PROPERTY RECOMMENDATIONS .....	5
SOIL TYPES .....	7
STRATA .....	8
PLAN MAP .....	11
STRATA ACTIVITY SCHEDULE .....	12

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**LANDOWNER INFORMATION**

Name: Leflore County BOE  
Mailing Address: 1901 HWY 82 West  
City, State, Zip: Greenwood , MS 38930  
Country: United States of America  
Contact Numbers: Home Number:  
Office Number: 662-453-8566  
Fax Number:  
  
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: Leflore    Total Acres: 564    Latitude: -90.29    Longitude: 33.77  
Section: 15    Township: 22N    Range: 1W

**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**

*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 15\_T22N\_R1W is +/- 563.93 acres of agricultural fields, bald cypress-tupelo gum brakes, and bottomland hardwood timber. Only 131.64 acres of this section are forested. Dominate species found are bald cypress, tupelo gum, hackberry, and green ash. This section is located in north Leflore County 1 mile north of Minter City. Section can be accessed from county road 526. Propertys topography is low, with areas that water year round.

*Water Resources*

An intermittent drainage ditch system resides on the property. The drainage system resides throughout the North and South boundaries. This section drains into the Eden Creek water shed, which drains into the Yazoo River Watershed. Mississippi's Best Management Practices such as stream side management zones (SMZ'S) will be utilized to protect water resources.

*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.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

*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*

Cultural resources were identified during a reconnaissance of the property. The section contains 2 home sites in the central portion. Considerations for the landowners will be applied during management activities.

## **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:

## 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.

Currently boundaries are not clearly marked on the section. Boundaries should be surveyed and clearly marked especially on the North and South boundaries of the section. Parts of the section are still in timber and join another landowner's property. 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

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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".

*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 Leflore County School District leases 101 acres of the section for hunting opportunities. This lease provides an annual income of \$2,200 for the Leflore County School District.

## **SOIL TYPES**

23

The Dowling, MUCK component makes up 100 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 0 to 1 percent. This component is on swamps. The parent material consists of clayey alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is very 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 very high. This soil is frequently flooded. It is frequently ponded. A seasonal zone of water saturation is at 0 inches during January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 8 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 7w. This soil meets hydric criteria.

18

The Dubbs component makes up 95 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 3 to 7 percent. This component is on natural levees. The parent material consists of loamy alluvium. Depth to a root restrictive layer is greater than 60 inches. The natural drainage class is well drained.

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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 moderate. This soil is rarely 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 3e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria.

*12*

The Askew component makes up 90 percent of the map unit. Slopes are 1 to 3 percent. This component is on terraces. The parent material consists of alluvium. 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 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, December. Organic matter content in the surface horizon is about 2 percent. Nonirrigated land capability classification is 2e. This soil does not meet hydric criteria.

## **STRATA**

### *Strata 1*

#### Strata Description

This 6.07 acre strata is made up one stand (#5). This strata was approximately established in 1965. Stand #5 is an understocked mixed hardwood stand with sugar berry, honey locust, bald cypress and green ash being the dominate species.

#### Strata Recommendations

This stand contains an intermittent drainage ditch. Stand #5 will remain and serve as a SMZ for the drainage ditch during the management plan time frame. Mississippi Best Management Practices guidelines require a minimum of 35 foot buffer width and 50 % crown closure remain. Thus harvesting will not be conducted on the stand 5 to ensure guidelines are kept at the highest standard. The stand is understocked therefore not allowing for thinning.

#### 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. During the time frame of the plan this stand will provide habitat for native wildlife species.

### *Strata 2*

#### Strata Description

This 115.7 acres strata consists of two stands (#3 and 37) is a bald cypress, tupelo gum brake. This area holds water throughout the year. The stands are fully stocked with an



**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

average diameter of 12 inches. The brakes provide drainage for the intermittent ditch system.

**Strata Recommendations**

Recommendations for harvesting will be evaluated throughout the plan period.

Harvesting decision could be based off the stand being overstocked or reached maturity in order to reach highest yield possible. The recreational value of the stand may need to be considered before harvesting as well. Harvesting could have negative impact for future leasing.

Harvesting will be limited because of the hydrology. During most years this strata stays wet year round. Dry years may allow for harvesting activities. Harvesting during dry conditions will prevent environmental damage such as excessive rutting.

**Strata Activities**

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 stands. Stands will provide habitat for shoreline birds yearly and during the winter months habitat for migrating waterfowl. Will also provide nesting cavity trees for wildlife species such as the wood duck.

*Strata 3*

**Strata Description**

This 9.87 acre strata consists of stand #2. This strata was approximately established in 1947. Stand #2 is a fully stocked bottomland hardwood forest with hackberry and green ash being the dominate species. This stand has 155 trees per ace with an average diameter of 12.1 inches. An intermittent drainage system resides inside of this stand.

**Strata Recommendations**

This stand contains an intermittent drainage ditch. Stand #2 will remain and serve as a SMZ for the drainage ditch during the management plan time frame. Mississippi Best Management Practices guidelines require a minimum of 35 foot buffer width and 50 % crown closure remain. Thus harvesting will not be conducted on the stand to ensure guidelines are kept at the highest standard.

**Strata Activities**

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 stands. Stand #6 will provide habitat for native wildlife species.

*Non-Forest*

**Strata Description**

This 432.21 acre strata consists of stands #1, #4, #6, and #8. Stand #1, #4, and #6 consists of 427.79 acres of agricultural land and home sites. The Leflore County School

**MISSISSIPPI FORESTRY COMMISSION  
FOREST STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN**

board leases this land for agricultural production. Stand #8 consists of 4,52 acres of open water that resides in a bald cypress slough.

**Strata Recommendations**

Stand #1, #4, and #6 is leased out by the Leflore County School District for agriculture production. The agriculture lease provides an annual income of \$54,000. The agriculture lease provides the highest and best use for this stand. There are no recommendations for stand #8.

Stand # 8 will provide habitat for shoreline birds and migratory waterfowl.

**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.

Section15\_T22N\_R1W



**Section15 T22N R1W**

Leflore County, Mississippi  
2012 to 2021  
563.96 Acres



(11/28/2011)

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 Miles



# S15-T22N-R1W




## Property

 Property (1)


## Category 1: Stands

 Pulpwood (3)  
 Sawtimber (1)

## Category 3: Non-Forest Stands


 Non-Forest (4)

## Structures


 Single-Family (2)

# 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) (7)

## Tract/BNA (Census 2000)

 Tract/BNA (Census 2000) (1)


## County Roads

 County Roads (3)


## School Sections

 School Sections (1)

## Public School Districts

 LEFLORE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT (1)

## US Congressional District

 US Cong Dist #2 (1)

## MS Senate

 24 (1)

## MS House

 30 (1)

## Intermittent Streams

 Intermittent Streams (1)


## Hydrologic Units (Basins)

 TALLAHATCHIE RIVER (1)

## Historic Forest Boundary

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

## MS Forest Habitat


 YAZOO BASIN DRYLANDS (1)

 MISCELLANEOUS ALLUVIAL FLOODPLAINS (1)

## Physiographic Region

 Delta (1)

## Soil Associations

 dundee-forestdale-dubbs (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  
Leflore County BOE  
15 22N 1W

Strata	Stand	Activity	Acre	Est. Cost	Est. Revenue
		Yearly Totals	0	\$0.00	\$0.00
		<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>