

MISSISSIPPI'S NEW FORESTRY BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES VIDEO

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POSTER SUMMARY

Mississippi's latest version of forestry best management practices (BMPs) for water quality was released in 2000. In conjunction with this release, funds were obtained through a Section 319H grant from the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality to create a new BMPs video. Additional assistance was obtained from Georgia Pacific, PlumCreek, Weyerhaeuser, the Mississippi Forestry Commission, and Provine Helicopters. Video production started in the spring of 2001.

The first step was to create a video script. This was critical to make sure that we got the video footage we needed to help minimize costs, while assuring that all necessary material was covered. Great care was taken in the development of the script to provide as much information as possible about water-quality objectives and the need for BMPs on all the lands of Mississippi. Once the script was written and approved, video footage was collected.

This video encompasses all the steps necessary for completing water-quality objectives on forest land. Attention was given to planning a harvest, harvesting timber, site preparation concerns, and planting and communication between the landowner, logger, and forester.

Video footage was collected from old file footage, scenes of the previous BMP video produced in 1991, as well as

new footage. On several occasions, arrangements made to film a given area had to be cancelled due to adverse weather. One site, which consisted of two video segments, took over 3 months to film.

Several different sites were used in making the film. This provided a broad representation of terrain features within the State, offering viewers a better chance of observing BMPs on the type of land with which they are most familiar. The types of BMPs used on each different land type really do not change; however, it was important to ensure that the film was representative of the entire State. Sites included flat areas from central Mississippi, rolling hills of the southeast, and the steeper terrain of the north.

During and following filming, the video producer edited and put together the video footage, combined with the narration of the video script, to produce the video itself. Final editing was completed with the assistance of the Department of Forestry to help assure that only complete and pertinent information was included. This tape has been used extensively for landowner training, logger training, and some forester training. There have been numerous requests for copies from Mississippi as well as several other States. To date, over 300 copies of the video have been distributed nationwide.

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