



TEXAS A&M
FOREST SERVICE

FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN

Brad & Kendall Moore
313 Hanks St.
Whitehouse, TX 75791
903-920-1313 / 903-714-8678
bnkmoore@yahoo.com

FSP ID: 2021-423-028

Smith County
6/28/2021

Prepared by: Scotty Davis, Resource Specialist
501 Hillcrest Street
P.O. Box 1327
Henderson, TX 75653
903-657-0511, scotty.davis@tfs.tamu.edu



Dear Mr. & Mrs. Moore,

Congratulations on developing a Forest Stewardship Plan for your property. A managed forest benefits not only you but the environment as well. A managed forest provides diverse wildlife, aesthetic appeal, recreational opportunities and increased forest productivity, just to name a few of the benefits. Your desire for professional advice on managing your forestland will lead to a healthier and more productive forest for you and your family and help conserve the forests of Texas.

This plan will enable you to make informed decisions concerning the future of your forest. This plan should be valid for the next ten years, although it is flexible by the nature of the resource. Revisions may be warranted due to market changes, new developments in forest management techniques or products, or uncontrollable circumstances such as forest fire, flood, insect and/or disease. Changes in your economic or personal factors also may change your primary goals. You can receive professional advice about how to make changes to your plan by contacting your local Texas A&M Forest Service office, a private Consulting Forester or other government agency.

Please note that all recommendations contained herein are flexible and may be modified to meet your concerns and objectives. You should not feel bound to this plan if your consulting forester suggests other management strategies that do not conflict with your management objectives.



Forest Stewardship Program

The purpose of the Forest Stewardship Program is to encourage the long-term stewardship of nonindustrial private forest lands by assisting the owners of such lands to more actively manage their forest and related resources. The Forest Stewardship Program is jointly funded by the Texas A&M Forest Service and the USDA Forest Service – State and Private Forestry.

This plan meets the required elements of a Forest Stewardship Plan per the 2009 national Forest Stewardship Program guidelines. Additional information such as timber volume, tax valuation guidance, or information from other resource professionals may be added as an Appendix to this plan provided that the author and date are noted for that information.

Pursuant to their position as Henderson District Forester with the Texas A&M Forest Service, Chris Kirby has been granted authority by the State Forester to approve this management plan as meeting the requirements of a Forest Stewardship Plan.

Resource Specialist Signature _____

Forester Signature Chris Kirby *Plan Valid Until: 6/28/2031*

Property Overview

Goals and Objectives:

Primary

☐ Management of timber for income (**must be a landowner goal if applying for a timber valuation**)

☐ Wildlife Habitat ☐ Erosion Control/Water quality ☒ Aesthetics

☐ Tree Planting ☒ Forest Health ☒ General Recommendations ☐ Cost Shares

☐ Other _____

Secondary

☐ Management of timber for income (**must be a landowner goal if applying for a timber valuation**)

☐ Wildlife Habitat ☐ Erosion Control/Water quality ☐ Aesthetics

☒ Tree Planting ☐ Forest Health ☐ General Recommendations ☐ Cost Shares

☐ Other _____

Tract Location: This approximately 15-acre tract is located in the Clark Fincher Survey, Abstract 243, in Smith County, Texas. The tract is located next to 13069 CR 217 Arp, TX 75791. The property is just North of the intersection of FM 850 and CR 217.

General Resource Descriptions & Recommendations

Boundary Lines:

- ☐ Barbed wire fencing along the entire tract perimeter
- ☐ Tract perimeter partially fenced
- ☐ Game fencing along the tract perimeter
- ☐ No fencing or distinguishable boundaries along the tract perimeter

I highly recommend painting trees along your boundaries with purple paint. This is important to not only let others know where your boundaries are located, but to discourage others against trespass and timber theft. The Texas Penal Code, Article 30.05, provides the use of purple paint to post property boundaries. I've enclosed with this plan information regarding purple paint as well as vendors from whom you may obtain the registered paint from. A periodic walk around the perimeter of your property is a precaution to prevent/discover trespass.

Roads:

- ☐ Extensive road network on the property
- ☐ Some roads/trails intersecting the property
- ☐ One main road/trail on the property
- ☐ No roads/trails on the property

Keep in mind that roads are the largest contributor of sediment and degradation of water quality from forested properties. In general, water from the roadway needs to be turned out into the woods where the sediment can filter out. Often road ditches deliver the runoff—filled with sediment—directly into the stream at the road crossing. Following the recommended, voluntary practices in the Texas Forestry Best Management Practices (BMP) Handbook may help to keep mandatory federal or state regulations at bay. A copy of the BMP Handbook is available at the local Texas A&M Forest Service office or at http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/sustainable/bmp_manual.

Infrastructure:

There is no residence and no outbuildings located on the property. It is recommended to continue implementing Firewise landscaping and fire mitigation practices around this infrastructure. More information is described in the *Fire and Fuel Information* topic in this section.

No Archeological, Cultural, or Historic Sites (Special Sites) were observed by Texas A&M Forest Service personnel. However, you can research if past-discovered sites occur on or around your property, and you can also learn more about how to identify special sites by visiting the American Tree Farm Systems special sites resource guide: <http://www.treefarmssystem.org/your-special-sites-resource-guide> (click on Texas to research current special sites). If you would like a Special Site preserved, please contact the Texas A&M Forest Service for a Forest Stewardship Plan revision.

Water:

- ☐ Rivers and/or large creeks crossing the property
- ☐ Small streams, springs, and/or drains crossing the property
- ☐ One or more stock tanks and/or ponds on the property
- ☐ Large lake adjacent to the property
- ☐ Bottomlands, Wetlands, or Marsh

We recommend that you leave what is called a ***streamside management zone (SMZ)*** along your stream courses. The SMZ is a strip a minimum of 50 feet either side of the stream that you treat with special care. When logging in the SMZ, we recommend that you remove no more than half the trees, leaving at least half to buffer rainfall and sunlight. Skidding should be minimized in the SMZ and stream crossings should be widely spaced and designed to protect water quality. Ideally, the litter layer within the SMZ remains undisturbed and serves as a filter for the overland flow of rain water, trapping sediment before it reaches the stream. The Blue Book mentioned in the ***Roads*** section, emphasizes protecting water quality during logging but the information pertains to all soil disturbing activities. Make sure your logger and road contractors are familiar with the Blue Book and implement its recommendations.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are the principle means by which we protect our water resources while managing our forests. They are voluntary conservation practices designed to provide an economical way of protecting soil and water resources, two key elements necessary for growing a healthy, sustainable, and productive forest. Enhancing riparian areas around streams, restricting management in streamside management zones (SMZs) and carefully placing and maintaining roads to prevent erosion are ways to protect water resources and promote the health of your land. You can learn more about water resources or download the Texas Forestry Best Management Practices Handbook at http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/sustainable/bmp_manual.

No wetlands were observed by the Texas A&M Forest Service. There are federal regulations covering the management and disturbance of wetlands. Federal regulations define wetlands as "those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas." If you have areas of your land that may meet this description, you can contact the Texas A&M Forest Service for a Forest Stewardship Plan revision. For more information on wetlands and the regulation of wetlands, visit the *Information Resources* section. Or visit <https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/Mapper.html> to access the National Wetlands Inventory.

Soils:

There are 4 soil types on your land. They are listed on the next page and depicted in the attached Soil Map. Your tract has average to very good soils, varying from a site index of 84 to 100. Site index is a way to measure the growth potential of a forest soil. Basically, it is the height of a 50-year-old tree on that soil.

Soils are very important. Vegetation growth, diversity, and management begin with the soils lying underneath. The type of soil has a great deal to do with the species, quality and growth of the stand of trees growing on it. A professional forester can recommend a list of trees suitable for your soil types. You can learn more about the soils on your land by visiting <http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/>. This website will identify the soils on your property and provide information regarding range productivity, erosion potential, pond-site potential, and many other factors to help you manage the land.

Tract Soil Types

Symbol	Name	Site Index	Slope
CfE	Cuthbert Fine Sandy Loam	84	5-20%
LtC	Lilbert Loamy Fine Sand	88	1-6%
Ma	Mattex Loam	100	0-1%
TeE	Tenaha Loamy Fine Sand	87	8-20%

Stand Descriptions & Recommendations

Refer to the included "Stand Map" for stand delineations.

Stand 1:

Current Condition: Stand 1 comprises 15 acres of hardwood and pine mixture with some areas have a greater basal area than others.

Desired Future Condition: One recommendation for this stand is to have a selective thinning to help manage it for wildlife habitat.

Underbrush Control

There are many reasons for reducing the underbrush (the brush that grows underneath the canopies of mature trees) in your forest including improved aesthetics and wildlife viewing opportunities, trail establishment and/or access improvement, reduction of older, less edible wildlife browse, minimizing competition for soil moisture and soil nutrients among preferred tree species, and reduced fuel loading in the event of a wildfire to name a few. Underbrush can be controlled in a variety of ways including:

- Mulching
- Prescription burning
- Selective herbicide application
- Brush-hogging
- Livestock (goats)
- Hand methods (chainsaw, brush cutters, etc.)

Underbrush control is a continuous operation and should be strategically applied in areas that need the most attention to meet the management goals. For a list of vendors who specialize in brush management, visit <https://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/> and click on the **My Land Management Connector** link.



1 Forestry Mulching Machine



*2 Prescription
Burning*

My Land Management Connector

Are you interested in contacting a forestry vendor or consultant to assist you with your forest management needs?

My Land Management Connector helps landowners find land management service providers

Landowners, use this free online application to find service providers with ease. You also have the option to connect with neighbors to complete services across property lines and cut the cost per acre.

Service providers, sign up and create a presence on My Land Management Connector to get the word out about your business and contact landowners who have requested your services.

Created by Texas A&M Forest Service, My Land Management Connector makes it easy to find providers for services like timber harvesting, consulting services, herbicide application and so much more.

Visit <http://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/> and click on the My Land Management Connector Application

My Land Management Connector

Make connections. Enhance your piece of Texas.



Connect

Find and connect with service providers that will help you steward your land. Link up with neighbors to share services and resources.

[START HERE](#)



Find

Find a service provider that's right for you by reviewing credentials and references.

[SEARCH SERVICE PROVIDERS](#)

*The Texas A&M Forest Service provides only general guidance regarding harvest value, timing, or method. **Private Forestry Consultants** are the best source of specific information regarding timber value, harvest rates, harvest rationale or harvest method. Landowners needing this information included in their management or Forest Stewardship Plan may attach this information in the plan Appendix with the author and date indicated. See the Information Resources section for a list of private forestry consultants.*

Cost Share Programs

When considering certain management practices that are a cost to you and are directly related to managing timber for profit, there are cost share programs for site preparation, herbicide application and tree planting available to forest landowners under certain circumstances. Contact your Texas A&M Forest Service office for current programs that may apply.

EQIP:

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary program that provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural landowners through contracts up to a maximum term of ten years in length. These contracts provide financial assistance to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and for opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland. In addition, a purpose of EQIP is to help landowners meet Federal, State, Tribal and local environmental regulations.

Information about how to apply for assistance through EQIP is available online (see the *Information Resources* section of this plan). Each State's EQIP page includes application ranking criteria, priority resource concerns, lists of eligible practices, payment rates, information about where you can submit applications, eligibility requirements and other program requirements.

To obtain an EQIP application, visit or contact your local NRCS field office:

Smith County

4209 Republic Dr, Tyler, TX – 903-561-2050

Rusk County

1305 S Main St, Henderson, TX 75654 – 903-657-8221 ext. 3

Panola County

3424 SW Loop 436, Carthage, TX – 903-693-3311

Northeast Texas Conservation Delivery Network (CDN)

The Northeast Texas Conservation Delivery Network works to strategically meet the wildlife/landscape restoration and management objectives of its participating members. Conservation is promoted throughout the CDN geography, with highest priority placed on pine savannah, bottomland hardwood habitat, grassland, and longleaf conservation. Cost share assistance may be available for establishment and management of native shortleaf and longleaf pine, forest management towards desired conditions for priority wildlife species (ex. brush control, timber stand improvement), and prescription burning.

The application process for this program has a **very short window** in the late summer (August) so if you're interested, please contact me as soon as possible to start the application paperwork and documentation.

For more information on the NETX CDN visit: <https://www.lmvjv.org/ne-texas-cdn>

Fish and Wildlife:

Wildlife management can almost always fit nicely into other land objectives. Land well-managed for livestock, soil and water, or aesthetics often benefits wildlife. While different wildlife species have different needs; even smaller acreages can be managed to benefit a wide variety of wildlife. Important wildlife types in East Texas include: songbirds, rodents, reptiles, amphibians, game-birds, and mammals. For more information or to contact a wildlife biologist, visit [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#). Additionally, [Stewardship Wildlife Biologist – Courtney McInnerney](#) is available to help East TX landowners achieve their wildlife objectives and can provide wildlife recommendations specific to your land. Courtney can be contacted by email at courtney.mcinnerney@tpwd.texas.gov or by phone at (409) 789-2053.

If you are interested in information on ponds, a publication was prepared by the Texas Chapter of the American Fisheries Society to provide information to the pond owner who has little or no knowledge of fishery management. This publication can be downloaded at <http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/manuals/>. Information may also be provided by a Texas Parks and Wildlife biologist or a Texas A&M Agrilife Extension agent. If you are thinking of building a new pond, The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service can provide tips and information specific to your property.

Consider biological diversity when managing your land. Biological diversity can be simply defined as the amount of life in an area. What this means to landowners is that the more tree, shrub, and plant species that are encouraged to grow will result in more beneficial insects and wildlife on the property. The good news for landowners is that every plant does not have to occur in each of their forest stands. It is acceptable to have stands with a specific target tree with a target age-class; however, by having other stands with other age-classes or tree species, more wildlife may find their habitat needs on your property. Native grasses, forbs, shrubs, and non-commercial trees have a purpose within the landscape, and you are encouraged to find a spot for them to flourish within your property even if it is only a small area.

Listed below are a few ways to encourage a healthy, diverse wildlife population on your property. These options include:

- Leave scattered mast producing hardwoods (oak, hickory) during harvest operations
- Install/maintain wildlife food plots and forest openings
- Build nest boxes and/or improving nest sites for bird habitat
- Roadside and/or right of way vegetation management
- Prescription burning
- Hardwood plantings
- Browse management – Browse is defined as shrubs and trees whose leaves, shoots, and twigs are used by wildlife. Browse may be planted, released from competition from other vegetation, or even rejuvenated through burning, herbicide spraying, and/or pruning.
- Identification of and control of invasive species



No rare, threatened or endangered species were observed by the Texas A&M Forest Service, and your land does not currently fall within designated critical habitat. However, you are encouraged to monitor the listed rare, threatened or endangered species for your county by visiting [US Fish and Wildlife Service](#) and [Texas Parks and Wildlife Department](#) websites. These agencies also have biologists specifically trained in the identification of listed species and can be contacted for more information.

Forest Health Information:

Landowners and managers should continually monitor all your stands for signs of insects, diseases and invasive species. Information is available on identifying insects and the signs of damage on the Texas A&M Forest Service website. Where insect and disease levels have potential to impact forest resources, an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach is best. It is also very important to monitor your property for invasive species and take steps to control them when possible.

IPM is a strategy used to manage insect pests in the landscape by using economically and environmentally sustainable practices. Today, the concept of chemical treatment as a singular means to control plant pests is no longer viable or acceptable. The goal of IPM is *not* to [eliminate insect pests](#), but rather to strengthen and stabilize the landscape (ecosystem) so that conditions are more favorable for plants than they are for pests. This is achieved by employing a combination of practices to prevent or avoid anticipated pest problems rather than treating them once they occur. By using [scouting and monitoring](#) practices to monitor pests, action can be taken in a timely manner to prevent significant problems by using the most environmentally-friendly and cost-effective combination of [cultural](#) or [mechanical](#), [biological](#) and, when justified, [chemical](#) methods available. Visit <http://ipm.tamu.edu/> for more information on IPM. To learn how to gain information on specific insects and diseases, visit the *Information Resources* section of this plan.

Invasive Species

Invasive species are plants, insects, diseases or animals not native to Texas that can grow, reproduce and spread rapidly, establish over large areas, and persist. Species that become invasive succeed due to favorable environmental conditions and lack of natural predators, competitors and diseases that normally regulate their populations. This includes a wide variety of plants, insects and animals. As invasive species spread and take over ecosystems, they decrease biodiversity by threatening the survival of native plants and animals. In fact, invasive species are a significant threat to almost half of the native U.S. species currently listed as federally endangered. It is very important to monitor your property for invasive species and take steps to manage them when possible. Local Texas A&M Forest Service offices have a list of common invasive plants in East Texas. For more information, visit <http://www.texasinvasives.org/> and look at the *Information Resources* section of this plan.

The following is a list of the most common invasive species found in Texas.



Chinese Tallow _____



Chinese Privet _____



Japanese Climbing Fern _____



Mimosa _____



Tropical Soda Apple _____



Giant Asian Dodder _____



Asian Bamboo _____



Kudzu _____



Japanese Honeysuckle _____



Chinaberry _____



Chinese Wisteria _____

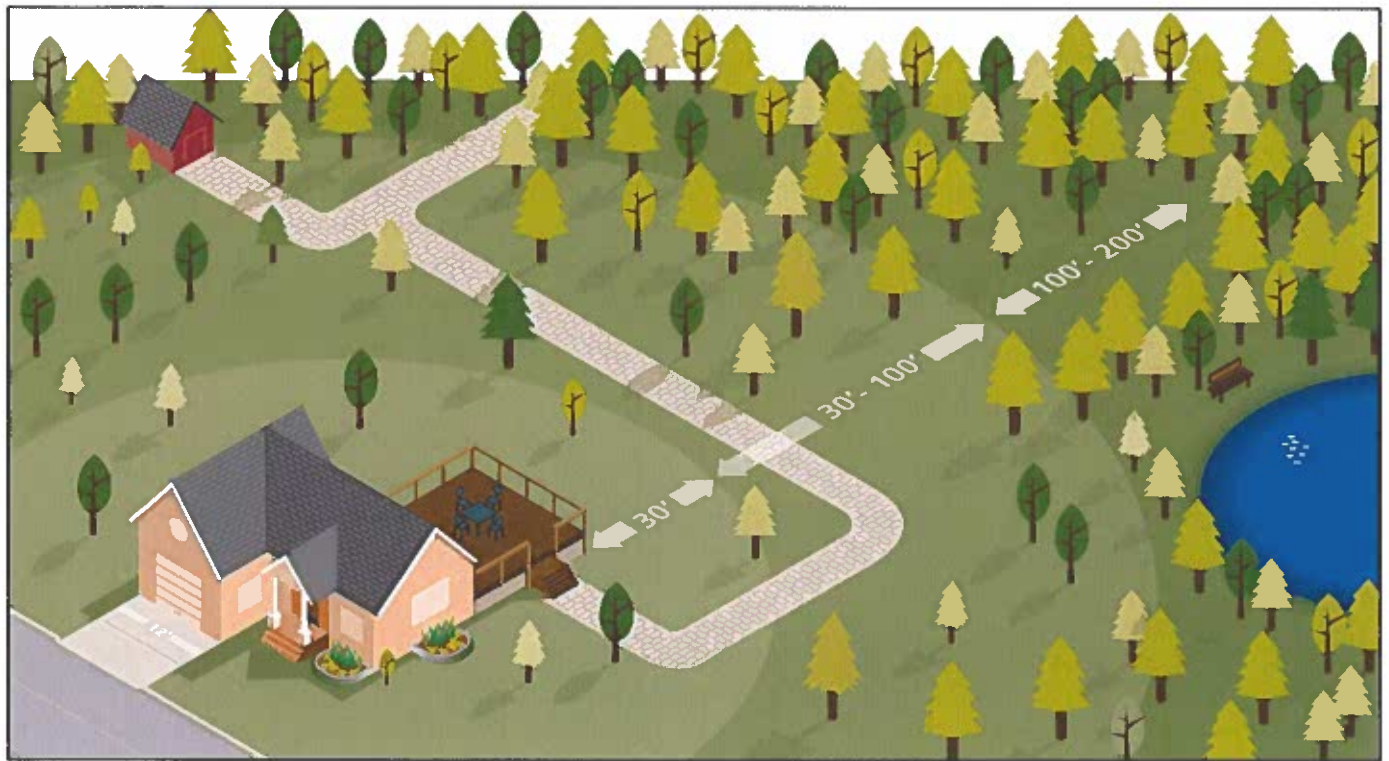


Giant Reed _____

Fire and Fuel Information:

As a forest landowner, you should be aware of fire risk and do your part to prepare for and reduce that risk to yourself and your neighbors. The Texas A&M Forest Service [website](#) has detailed information on [Predictive Services](#), [Mitigation](#), [Rapid Initial Response](#), [Local Capacity Building](#), [Planning & Preparedness](#) and Incident Response.

One of the most important things you can do to protect your home and/or structures from wildfire is to create defensible space around them. Defensible space is an area around a building in which vegetation, debris, and other types of combustible fuels have been treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of fire to and from the building.



The following zones in the defensible space provide recommendations for plants with certain fire-resistant characteristics, spacing ideas and key maintenance considerations to make your yard or landscape Firewise.

Zero feet – 10 feet from Home

This area should have plants that are low to the ground, green and healthy. Use moist plants around the foundation. Keep them properly watered and avoid large clumps of plants that can generate high heat. Use material such as rock or stone instead of mulch around the home to create a buffer between the grass and foundation. Small shrubs with low density can provide beauty and other benefits.

Maintenance includes keeping shrubs small, proper pruning and cleaning under all plants and maintaining a green and mowed lawn.

Ten feet – 30 feet from home

This area will most likely have trees, shrubs and grass. The grass should be watered regularly and cut short. Ladder fuels that allow fire to climb from lower to higher vegetation should be removed in this area. The best choices for trees are deciduous species with wide, broad leaves. Shrubbery and bushes should be placed away from trees and planted in islands or groupings. Use brick or stone along the edge of an island to slow the flame spread. Single plants or groups within islands provide a separation of fuels and are decorative. Small to medium deciduous trees are preferable to evergreens in this zone. For more information, visit our website at

<https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/>

Prescribed burning is the most commonly used tool for managing fuel because of its relatively low cost per acre. Prescribed fire improves natural habitats and reduces the fuel load. It is important to use a certified prescribed burn manager to improve fire safety and reduce smoke management issues. For more information, visit the *Information Resources* section of this plan.

Range Management:

Currently, there are no livestock grazing on the property. In the case that livestock are introduced to the property in the future, it is important to protect young trees from livestock damage by fencing or other means. It is also recommended to follow conservation grazing practices to ensure your land is productive from one generation to the next. Information is available by contacting [Texas A&M AgriLife Extension](#) or USDA [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#).

Recreation:

Most landowners use their property for recreation. This can be done by driving or walking to view wildlife, or by hunting or fishing. Even performing activities to enhance or beautify the property could be considered recreation based on the health and well-being benefits they provide us. There may be ways to develop the recreational opportunities on your property. They may include widening road openings, creating forest trails, managing fire breaks or making wildlife openings. More information is available by the Texas A&M Forest Service to help you develop your ideas and the resources of the forest.

Aesthetic Quality Information:

Forestry operations are highly visible and subject to the perceptions and opinions of an environmentally aware public. Furthermore, the image of the forest industry is directly influenced by the perceived quality of forest operations. Conducting operations in an aesthetically acceptable manner is important to the future of forests in Texas. The Texas Sustainable Forestry Initiative has compiled specific recommendations about forest aesthetics which can be found at <http://www.texasforestry.org/resources/publications>.

Carbon Cycle and Carbon Sequestration:

The removal of carbon from the atmosphere is the process of carbon sequestration. Trees are roughly 50% carbon, based on dry weight. A carbon credit is a market term and is equal to one metric ton of CO₂ stored. The amount of carbon credits on your property can be computed based on a forest inventory cruise of your property. Age, stocking levels, species and site index of the soils are factors that can affect the base-line inventory. Many consultant foresters can complete the base-line inventory with an associated fee. Landowners who decide to participate in the carbon market must take into consideration the commitment period, contracts, associated fees, market access, inventory methods, aggregators, certification programs, afforestation and silvicultural treatments.

Biomass Information:

Biomass is the term used to define the energy source made from biological material including wood and other agricultural materials. Forest Biomass can be converted to ethanol and wood pellets. Harvesting biomass materials must be done sustainably, follow the landowner's objectives and ensure all existing environmental protection laws, best management practices and guidelines are met.

Forests of Recognized Importance (FORI):

Are you aware of any forests of exceptional conservation value on your property? (The American Tree Farm Definition is: *Forests of outstanding and critical importance due to their environmental, social, biodiversity, or landscape values.*) If so, contact the Texas A&M Forest Service for a plan revision; it is important that management practices maintain that conservation value. Both the American Tree Farm and Forest Stewardship Council forest certification systems ask that landowners be aware of how to identify and maintain these forests on certified land. For further guidance regarding Forests of Recognized Importance, visit the *Information Resources* section of this plan. There are also programs available that may help protect those values through a conservation easement. The Texas Land Trust Council can provide information at <http://www.texaslandtrustcouncil.org/>.

Social or Economic Impact due to Forestry Practices:

When initiating a new forestry operation or changing an existing forestry operation, it is important to consider how others may be affected by this change either socially or economically. People who may be affected include: workers (both in the forest and in the processing sites), neighbors, people who use the water downstream of the property or people who have traditionally had access to the land. If negative impacts are expected due to a change in forestry practices, landowners are encouraged to explore ways reduce or eliminate these impacts.

Timber Management:

The Texas A&M Forest Service provides only general guidance regarding harvest value, timing, or method. **Private Forestry Consultants** are the best source of specific information regarding timber value, harvest rates, harvest rationale or harvest method. Landowners needing this information included in their management or Forest Stewardship Plan may attach this information in the plan Appendix with the author and date indicated. See the *Information Resources* section for a list of private forestry consultants.

Proposed Schedule of Events

<i>Area</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Practice Description</i>	<i>Implementation Date</i>
Tract	15	Selective thinning for wildlife habitat	2021
Tract	15	Control underbrush – See Underbrush Control Section	Ongoing
Tract	15	Create defensible space around any structures (if applicable) –See Fire & Fuel Information in the plan	Ongoing
Tract	15	Periodically check for and eradicate invasive species	Ongoing
Tract	15	Establish and maintain wildlife food plots/forest openings	Ongoing
Tract	15	Establish boundaries with purple paint & install/maintain firelanes where needed	Within the next 2 years
NOW!		Join the Texas Forestry Association & Rusk/Smith County Landowner Association (see brochures attached)	NOW!
		Contact TFS-Henderson District to update plan	2031

Forest Stewardship Program

Thank you for participating in the Forest Stewardship program. The management practices you implement on your property will contribute to landscape-level forest sustainability, which is designed to protect forests from harm and conserve working forests as well as enhance the benefits associated with trees and forests across the state and region.

Each year, Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) is required to randomly sample a set a Stewardship Management Plans to determine if practices are being implemented across the state and in high-priority areas. This helps the agency focus resources, prioritize programming and measure accomplishments. Should your property be selected, your forester will be in contact with you. In most cases, a simple phone call is all that is necessary. Occasionally, however, a site visit may be necessary and your forester will coordinate this with you. All practices mentioned within this plan are completely voluntary and implementation is solely at the discretion the landowner.

Additionally, TFS recognizes good stewards of the land with the Certified Forest Steward Award. The award (which includes recognition, a certificate and a metal sign) is presented to any Texas landowner who meets the implementation aspect of their plan. If you are interested in the Certified Forest Steward Award, please contact your local TFS office. For more information, see the *TFS Stewardship Program and Certified Forest Steward Program* link under the *Information Resources* section of this document.

The American Tree Farm Program

Another program that many Landowners choose to participate in is the American Tree Farm System's (ATFS) Tree Farm Program. ATFS has established standards and guidelines for property owners to meet to become a Certified Tree Farm. Under these standards and guidelines, private forest owners who develop and implement a management plan, like this one, and pass an inspection by an ATFS volunteer forester can receive Certified Tree Farm status. If your property is certified as a Tree Farm, you will receive a Tree Farm certificate, 1 year free subscription to the Tree Farmer magazine, and a metal sign. For more information, see the *Tree Farm Program* link under the *Information Resources* section of this document.

Texas Forestry Association

Started in 1914, the Texas Forestry Association (TFA) is an association of forest-minded landowners, businesses and professionals. Today, TFA offers programs for almost every Texan interested in conservation, business, history, education, wildlife and more. Their purpose includes: to promote an economic, social, and political climate that will advance forestry in Texas. Visit www.texasforestry.org for information.

Rusk/Smith County Forest Landowner's Association

The Rusk/Smith Forest Landowner's Association can be a good local source of information pertaining to local forestland issues. Membership in the association is only \$20 a year and benefits of membership include notification of area meetings and presentations on natural resource issues as well as an informative quarterly newsletter that covers all aspects of forestland management. For more information contact Hap Hachtel at (903) 822-3338.

Information Resources

The Texas A&M Forest has developed Forest Management Information Sheets with describe many forestry or timber management practices. These can be provided by your local Texas A&M Forest Service office or you can get them online at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/ForestManagementInformationSheets/>.

Links:

TFS Stewardship Program and Certified Forest Steward Program

<http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/Stewardship/>

Tree Farm Program

<http://www.texasforestry.org/programs/treefarm/>

<http://www.treefarmssystem.org/>

Private Forestry Consultants and Timber Buyers

<http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/content/article.aspx?id=19883>

Timber Management

<https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/ForestManagementInformationSheets/>

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TimberHarvesting/>

Harvesting Contracts and Timber Sales

<http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/ForestManagementInformationSheets/>

http://www.texasforestry.org/docs/billofsale_examples.pdf

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TimberPriceTrends/>

Timber Tax

<http://texasforestservice.tamu.edu/EstatePlanning/>

<http://www.timbertax.org/>

Texas Reforestation and Conservation Act (SB 977)

<http://txforestservice.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/Sustainable/tax/brochure.pdf>

Cost Share Programs

http://www.tx.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/farm_bill/index.html

<http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/private/lip/>

<http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/arlingtontexas/pfw.htm>

Biomass

<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ener&topic=bcap>

High Conservation Value Forests

<http://www.treefarmssystem.org/stuff/contentmgr/files/1/b6def982f32878ce457388c59ba57a4b/misc/finalaf2010standardsguidance.pdf>

<http://ic.fsc.org/high-conservation-values-and-biodiversity-identification-management-and-monitoring.213.htm>

Water Resources

- Best Management Practices and Streamside Management Zones

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/water>

<http://tfswater.blogspot.com>

➤ Pond Management

http://www.sdafs.org/tcafs/manuals/tcafs_pond_manual_2005.pdf
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/water/habitats/private_water/

➤ Wetlands

<http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/>

Forest Health

➤ Forest Insect Pests, Diseases and Non Native Invasive Plant Species

<http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=1209>
<http://texasinvasives.org/>
<http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/main/article.aspx?id=1260>

➤ Fire

- Use in Management
- <http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/PrescribedBurns/>
- Prevention, Protection and Wildfire Mitigation
- <http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/PrepareYourHomeforWildfire/ProtectYourHome/>
- <http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/PrepareYourHomeforWildfire/ProtectYourCommunity>
- Fuel Breaks
- http://texasforests-service.tamu.edu/protect_your_wildlands/

Fish and Wildlife

➤ Threatened, Endangered and Rare Species

- <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_rare_species/listed_species/
<http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/crithab/>
- Red-cockaded Woodpecker
 - <http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/wildlifemanagement/non-game/>
 - <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/rcw/>
 - [http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Landowner_Assistance/Stewardship\(1\)/Red-Cockaded_Woodpecker.pdf](http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Landowner_Assistance/Stewardship(1)/Red-Cockaded_Woodpecker.pdf)
 - http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Wildlife_Management/Non-Game/pwd_bk_w7000_0013_red_cockaded_woodpecker_mgmt.pdf
 - Louisiana Black Bear
 - <http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/wildlifemanagement/non-game/>
 - http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Wildlife_Management/Non-Game/pwd_bk_w7000_0013_louisiana_black_bear.pdf
 - Bald Eagle
 - <http://tfswweb.tamu.edu/wildlifemanagement/non-game/>
 - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/recovery/biologue.html>
 - <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/eagle/guidelines/index.html>
 - Neches River Rose Mallow
 - http://www.centerforplantconservation.org/ASP/CPC_ViewProfile.asp?CPCNum=2258
 - Navasota Ladies'-tresses
 - <http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/species/navasolt/>

- Wildlife Management – Bobwhite Quail, Eastern Wild Turkey, Feral Hogs, Nongame Wildlife, Song Birds, Supplemental Food Plots, White-tailed Deer, etc.

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/WildlifeManagement/>

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/wildlifemanagement/game/>

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/wildlifemanagement/non-game/>

Recreation/Aesthetics

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/VegetationManagement/>

Road Construction and Maintenance

<http://www.ncrs.fs.fed.us/fmg/nfmg/docs/mn/roads.pdf>

[http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Water_Resources_and_BMPs/Stewardship\(1\)/BMP%20Handbook_clean%20copy.%20Aug%202017.pdf](http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/uploadedFiles/TFSMain/Manage_Forest_and_Land/Water_Resources_and_BMPs/Stewardship(1)/BMP%20Handbook_clean%20copy.%20Aug%202017.pdf)

Texas Forest Information Portal/Map My Property/My Land Management Connector

<http://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/>

<http://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/mapmyproperty/>

<https://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/MyLandManagementConnector/>

