

National Forests in Mississippi  
Land and Resource Management Plan

Amendment #6

This amendment incorporates the methods and tools available for use in the Final EIS on Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont. Biological methods are not allowed. All tools specified for prescribed fire, herbicide, and manual methods are available for use. For mechanical methods, all tools are available except raking and heavy disking.

The management review process as a minimum must evaluate the adequacy of vegetation management mitigation and monitoring.

Existing reporting systems will be used to report implementation of the vegetation management program annually.

Chapter 4 - FOREST-WIDE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

Page 4-2 Following the first paragraph after the above title insert item (1) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont in the section on **GENERAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES, SITE SPECIFIC ANALYSIS.**

Page 4-5 Following the word "land" in the first sentence on the page insert item (11) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont. Delete the balance of the first sentence on page 4-5. Add item (12) at the end of the first paragraph on page 4-5.

WILDLIFE  
RESPONSE TO FACETS-GENERAL DIRECTION

At beginning of section insert item (16) and (17) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Page 4-8 Delete the second paragraph in the Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Mississippi and insert item (18) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Before title TIMBER add title RANGE and sub-title GENERAL DIRECTION, insert item (24) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Page 4-11 Under SOIL WATER AND AIR, page 4-11 of the Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Mississippi replace item 1 with (46), and after item 4 at the top of the page insert items (28), (29),(30),(31),(43), and (47) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

After the third paragraph insert item (39) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Page 4-12 Insert items (19) and (20) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont following the next to last paragraph. Item (19) will start with "Works with...", and item (20) will be included with the last sentence deleted.

Page 4-14 Insert item (22) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont following the eighth paragraph.

Insert item (34) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont at the top of the page after "GENERAL DIRECTION."

Page 4-17 At the end of the section titled "FIRE" insert items (25) through (38) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Chapter 4 - TIMBER RESOURCE SUMMARY  
TIMBER HARVEST METHODS AND VEGETATION MANAGEMENT  
PRACTICES

Page 4-38 Before the last sentence on the page, add item (7) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

Revise the third from last sentence on the page to read, "Precommercial thinning is a planned practice only in the yellow pine and slash pine working groups, and in hardwood stands, where codominant trees of seedling (not sprout) origin are 25 feet or taller it is considered. Precommercial thinning is expected to be needed on about 20% of the area regenerated artificially and virtually all of the naturally regenerated stands."

Page 4-39 Insert items (13), and (50) through (83) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont before table 4-10.

- Page 4-43 After "VISUAL QUALITY OBJECTIVES" insert the first sentence of item (14) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont. Insert item (15) in a paragraph after item (14).
- Chapter 4 - PRESCRIPTION FOR ANALYSIS AREAS SUITABLE FOR TIMBER PRODUCTION SUITABLE 1
- Page 4-116 In the restocking guidelines table delete the line for Longleaf and insert the line for Longleaf in the table in item (5) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont in the section on **GENERAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**, TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT (TSI). (Retain footnote 1/).
- Before the third paragraph from the bottom of the page, add management requirement (7) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.
- Chapter 4 - BILOXI MANAGEMENT AREA STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES
- Page 4-125 Insert item (45) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont in the section titled "MODERATE SLASH WORKING GROUP" after the first paragraph.
- Chapter 4 - BLACK CREEK MANAGEMENT AREA STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES
- Page 4-131 Insert item (45) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont in the section titled "MODERATE SLASH WORKING GROUP" after the first paragraph.
- Chapter 5 - IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOREST PLAN
- Page 5-2 Following the second paragraph on this page insert items (2) thru (4) from Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont in the section on **GENERAL MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES**, SITE SPECIFIC ANALYSIS.
- Appendix M MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR LAKE AND STREAMSIDE AREAS MANAGEMENT (COORDINATING REQUIREMENTS) FOR LAKE AND STREAMSIDE FILTER STRIPS

General Modify Appendix M to retain the minimum width of filter strips and to incorporate the portion from Item (48) in Exhibit A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont that states the width of the filter strip will be 30 feet plus 1.5 times the percent slope. Each will take precedence where it will designate the wider filter strip.

PAGE M-3&M-4 Under both perennial and intermittent streams, prohibited actions add the following: "Removal of any woody understory vegetation within five feet of the bank."

The following disposition was made of the Standards and Guidelines in Appendix A in the Record of Decision for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont.

All Standards and Guidelines have been incorporated in the Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Mississippi except for the following items which were already covered:

Standards and Guidelines numbered 6, 8, 21, 23, 40, 41, 42, 44, and 49.

This amendment is not a significant change in the National Forests in Mississippi Land and Resource Management Plan. The determination that this is a nonsignificant amendment is made in accordance with 36 CFR 219.10(f) and Forest Service Manual, Chapter 1920 (53 Fed. Reg. 2680.7, July 15, 1988). This amendment does not alter the multiple use goals and objectives for long-term land and resource management. This amendment adds more specific direction and standards and guidelines for vegetation management in the National Forests in Mississippi. The amendment does not involve an increase or decrease in resource demands. In summary, this direction for vegetation management does not alter the long-term relationship between levels of multiple use goods and services projected by the Land and Resource Management Plan.

The NEPA analysis for this change of direction has been documented in the Draft and Final EIS for Vegetation Management in the Coastal Plain/Piedmont. The EIS is available for review at the Forest Supervisor's office.