EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Best Management Practices (BMP) monitoring program evaluated the level of implementation with voluntary forestry BMPs. A total of 150 sites on which silvicultural activities occurred were evaluated. These sites were monitored between August 16, 2000 and April 23, 2002 and are believed to be a representative sample of the forestry activities that occur in East Texas.

Overall BMP implementation on the sites monitored was 91.5%. In general, implementation was highest on sites under public or industrial ownership. National and State Forest sites had an overall implementation of 98.4%, while industry sites had a 96.1% implementation rating. Nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) lands scored 86.4% overall.

Implementation with BMPs was statistically significantly higher when:

- the landowner was familiar with BMPs
- the logging contractor had attended formal BMP training
- a forester was involved in the sale or activity
- BMPs were included in the timber sale contract
- the landowner was a member of a forest organization
- the timber was delivered to a major SFI$^\text{SM}$ mill

Implementation was generally lowest on sites when:

- owned by nonindustrial private forest (NIPF) landowners
- a forester was not involved in the sale or activity
- BMPs were not included in the timber sale contract

Major deficiencies noted during the evaluations were:

- improper stream crossings on temporary roads
- high amount of significant risks

Major improvements from previous rounds were:

- higher overall BMP implementation on stream crossings and roads
- increase in BMP implementation across all ownerships

In previous rounds (1, 2, and 3) of monitoring, tracts were graded for implementation using a “Pass or Fail” method. For Round 4, a new system was developed that uses percentages to denote implementation. This same system was used for Round 5.
Table 1. Percent Implementation by Ownership Type, All Five Rounds.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Round 1</th>
<th>Round 2</th>
<th>Round 3</th>
<th>Round 4</th>
<th>Round 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Old</td>
<td>New</td>
<td>Old</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIPF</td>
<td>86.3</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>81.2</td>
<td>81.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>89.6</td>
<td>95.1</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public</td>
<td>93.3</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>100.0</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>88.2</td>
<td>87.4</td>
<td>87.3</td>
<td>90.0</td>
<td>88.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>