

## 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<sup>SM</sup> 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.

	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4		Round 5	
				Old	New	Old	New
NIPF	86.3	82.9	76.3	79.1	81.2	81.1	<b>86.4</b>
Industry	89.6	95.1	98.4	98.6	94.2	100.0	<b>96.1</b>
Public	93.3	100.0	100.0	100.0	97.9	100.0	<b>98.4</b>
Overall	88.2	87.4	87.3	90.0	88.6	90.7	<b>91.5</b>