The Elements of BMB's

Silviculture

Special Managment Zone

Specific area associated with a stream, lake, or other waterbody that is managed differently than the rest of the timber to protect the waterway and surrounding ecosystem.



Wetlands

Do not significantly alter natural drainage, do not conduct mechanical site prep, avoid fireline plowing. Retain all snags and 1-2 leave trees. Harvest during dry season to avoid rutting.



Roads

Carefully plan roads and drainage before construction, minimizing stream and wetland crossings. Avoid construction during wet conditions. Stablize roadsides with gentle slopes and mulching/seeding to reduce erosion.





Stream Crossings

Cross perpendicular to the flow at the most narrow section, utilizing a culvert to allow continued water flow.



Harvesting

Keep loading decks & landings out of SMZ's. Do not dispose of slash near or in a waterbody/swamp.





Pesticides & Fertilizer Use

Choose equipment that applies product to target area only, avoiding SMZ's. Do not rinse equipment or containers and discharge into waterbodies.

No more than 1000 lbs/acre of elemental nitrogen or 250 lbs/acre of phosphorus over any 20 year period.

Site Prep & Planting

Plan site prep and planting before timber harvesting begins. Select only the techniques that are necessary to establish seedlings and minimize vegetative competition, do not needlessly disturb the ground. Be cautious around SMZ's. Minimize erosion with blade techniques, sloping, and arrangement of windrows or soil beds.



The Elements of BMD's Wildlife

Burrowing Animals

Animals like the gopher tortoise or burrowing owl are associated with open forestlands and grasslands. Locate concentrated heavy equipment work away from active burrows. Minimize equipment use during September and October when hatchlings are out.



Aquatic Species

Generally associated with flowing streams. Important to regulate temperature (shade), large and small woody debris, substrate, channel stability, and habitat connectivity.



Erosion Prevention

Erosion from timber management activities can negatively affect water ways with sediment and chemical contamination. Prevent erosion with proper management techniques and maintaining buffer zones around waterbodies.





Prescribed Burning

Utilize prescribed burning where appropriate to promote native habitat growth and food sources for wildlife.



Nesting Birds

Check for nesting birds around waterbodies. If nests are active, avoid working in those areas.



Pesticides & Fertilizer Use

Chemical application can be useful in some timber management strategies.

However, application should be as minimal as possible, not contribute to pollution, or jeopardize animal health.

Site Prep & Planting

Plan site prep and planting to avoid areas where wildlife habitats currently exist. Utilize corridors which maintain native habitat, including soft and hard mast. If suitable, plant wildlife plots to increase available food sources.

