

## NONTIDAL WETLANDS BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS

The following is a checklist for your use in determining which best management practices may be appropriate for your project.

To meet the requirements of the Nontidal Wetlands Protection Act, please submit this checklist and the following information along with the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan:

- \* a wetland delineation
- \* an acknowledgement/approval of landowner
- \* name/address/RPF# of registered professional forester

check when appropriate:

\_\_\_\_\_ Major skid trails, where ever feasible, will be located on soils that resist compaction and ruts, or other disturbances that adversely impact nontidal wetland hydrology.

\_\_\_\_\_ Appropriate equipment to asked logs will be selected based on slope and the ability of the soil to resist erosion or other disturbances.

\_\_\_\_\_ Truck roads, wherever feasible, will be located on uplands or on the highest available ground available as to minimize impact to nontidal wetlands.

\_\_\_\_\_ Truck roads will be of minimum dimensions necessary to accomplish their purpose and minimize impacts to nontidal wetlands.

\_\_\_\_\_ Truck roads will follow the natural contour of the land, wherever feasible, and shall be stabilized to minimize erosion.

\_\_\_\_\_ Wetland hydrology will be maintained by construction diversion ditches at the minimum depth to maintain flow of water.

\_\_\_\_\_ Fill material will be used only when absolutely necessary to maintain or construct a road. If needed, fill shall be excavated from uplands and shall be free from state or federally designated toxic pollutants.

\_\_\_\_\_ Intermittent and perennial streams, sloughs, or channels will not be crossed unless absolutely necessary. When necessary, crossing will at the shortest distance

feasible, be of appropriate design, and allow unrestricted movement of aquatic life in the stream.

**NOTE: A WATERWAY CONSTRUCTION PERMIT MAY BE REQUIRED**

\_\_\_\_\_ Log decks will be (a) located prior to road layout (b) located in uplands as far from streams and/or nontidal wetlands as practicable or on the highest available ground if uplands are unavailable, (c) kept to minimum size and number necessary for the operation, and (d) diversion ditches will be installed to direct water away from the dec, during use.

\_\_\_\_\_ Trash, debris, and chemicals will be collected and disposed of outside wetland areas.

\_\_\_\_\_ Utilization of low ground pressure equipment (i.e. high flotation tires, wide tracts, etc.) will be used when nontidal wetland soils are unable to support conventional equipment.

\_\_\_\_\_ Scheduling of forest harvest operations will be during periods when wetland soils are dry or frozen and are capable of supporting conventional equipment to prevent compaction, ruts, or other significant disturbances to nontidal wetland soils or hydrology.

\_\_\_\_\_ All forest harvest operations will be conducted so as to prevent impoundment of water or increase runoff in the nontidal wetland, unless the change is recommended in a sediment and erosion control plan.

\_\_\_\_\_ Harvesting will be conducted during dry periods or at times that enhance natural regeneration.

\_\_\_\_\_ Natural regeneration will be utilized where feasible and will be the preferred method of regeneration in wetland areas.

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (Describe additional practices)

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# COMPLIANCE AGREEMENT FOR THE STANDARD EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL PLAN FOR FOREST HARVEST OPERATIONS

## I. Site Information

A. Location \_\_\_\_\_

(Include site map or sketch of harvest area)

B. Type of Operation(s) \_\_\_\_\_

(i.e. logging, chipping, firewood)

C. Total Acres Harvested \_\_\_\_\_ Estimated Acres Loblolly Pine \_\_\_\_\_

## II. Landowner and Operator Information

A. Landowner \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

B. Operator \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Current F.P.O. Lic. # \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate of Training # \_\_\_\_\_

(Green/Gold Card)

C. Contract Dates: Contract Start \_\_\_\_\_ Contract End \_\_\_\_\_

D. List other forest harvest operations responsible for ensuring compliance with this

Compliance Agreement.

	Name of Operation	Type of Operation
(1)	_____	_____
(2)	_____	_____

**NOTE:** Unless one operator assumes full responsibility for implementing this plan, all forest harvest operations working at this site must obtain a Standard Erosion and Sediment Control Plan.

## III. AGREEMENT

A. I/We agree to adhere to the terms of the attached Standard Plan for Forest Harvest Operations and to grant Inspectors the right of entry to the site to monitor compliance.

B. I am aware of the landowner's responsibility of preventing accelerated erosion and sedimentation during and subsequent to forest harvest operations as mandated by the rules and regulations adopted by the State of Maryland and local jurisdictions.

C. I agree to require that all operators conducting forest harvest operations on

my property adhere to the requirements of the standard plan.

_____	_____	_____	_____
Landowner	Date	Operator	Date
D. Approved: _____			
(State Forester)			_____
			Date
E. Approved: _____			
(Chairman Calvert Soil Conservation District)			_____
			Date