



START WITH A PLAN

FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING

You plan for your vacation, your investments, your retirement, but have you taken time to develop a plan for your forest?

- 1** Consider your objectives. Are you interested in immediate and sustained income, wildlife habitat, recreation, retirement or even savings for college for a child or grandchild?
- 2** Get help. Get planning help from a professional forester or qualified resource professional and ask for a Texas Pro Logger when ready to harvest. They can help you plan for regeneration and harvesting and ensure that your plan complies with voluntary guidelines and state and federal regulations.
- 3** Develop a plan. Proper management helps your forestland gain value over time. Protect the value of your land with a plan that provides for reforestation, responsible harvesting and Best Management Practices (BMPs) to protect water and soil quality. Once you develop a plan, be sure to stick with it!

Tree farmers who manage lands in much the same fashion as other farmers – replanting, applying management principles, and with stewardship – will be rewarded with forests that are valuable and productive in the long run.

REGENERATION PLAN

A regeneration plan should come first in planning. If you wait until after harvest to plan regeneration, you could incur additional and unnecessary expense or have less than desirable results.



SEED TREE

Good for regenerating pine and hardwood when the seed trees are of good form. Leave 10 to 20 evenly distributed seed trees per acre. Seed trees are typically removed after successful regeneration.

SHELTERWOOD

Even-aged stands regenerate beneath the shade provided by mature trees from the previous stand. Good for naturally regenerating certain softwoods and hardwoods, such as southern pines or oaks.

CLEARCUTTING

Recommended when you want to upgrade stand quality, such as planting genetically improved pine or naturally regenerating hardwood species like oak. Generates the highest one-time income.

SINGLE-TREE SELECTION

Also known as selective harvesting or unevenage management, this method relies on natural regeneration and is used to manage both pine and hardwood. Although visually more attractive, harvest income per acre is usually less.

THINNING

This practice removes some of the lower-value trees in a stand to promote growth of the remaining healthy and vigorous trees. Thinning generates early income, promotes stand health, reduces wildfire risk and enhances wildlife browse.

AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS

When harvesting, consider visual impact. You can often make a timber harvest more aesthetically pleasing by considering the size, shape and placement in your plan. When clearcutting, a strip of trees can be left as a visual buffer along the highway. All trash, oil and lubricant containers must be properly stored and removed following harvest.

Get advice from a professional forester or qualified resource professional BEFORE making decisions about harvesting or regeneration and choose a Texas Pro Logger when you're ready to harvest.