



BMPs for Reforestation and Site Preparation



SMZ boundaries should be visibly marked before conducting any reforestation or site preparation activities to prevent any intrusion into the SMZ by the operation.



Conducting operations such as reforestation on the contour helps prevent large scale erosion from occurring.

More information regarding BMPs for reforestation and site preparation can be found in the BMP Handbook. For a copy of the BMP Handbook please visit <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/BMP> or your local Texas Forest Service office.

BMP Guidelines for Reforestation and Site Preparation Operations

- The boundaries of all Streamside Management Zones (SMZs) should be clearly marked before beginning site preparation activities.
- All firebreaks and firelanes should have well-installed and maintained water control structures such as waterbars and wing ditches to minimize erosion.
- Ripping, shearing, windrowing, and mechanical planting should follow the contour of the land to prevent excessive erosion.
- Minimize the amount of soil that is pushed into a windrow.
- Soil disturbance should be kept to a minimum. Avoid intensive site preparation on steep slopes and slopes with highly erodible soils.
- All reasonable attempts should be made to stabilize and repair erosion resulting from site preparation activities.
- All trash and equipment fluids associated with site preparation activities should be collected and disposed of properly.
- Plan ahead to minimize disturbance by equipment in SMZs.
- Site preparation and reforestation activities should skirt SMZs and stream channels. Any debris should be placed above the ordinary high water mark of any stream or body of open water.
- When applying silvicultural chemicals, avoid direct or indirect contact with nearby streams. All manufacturers' guidelines should be followed during application.
- Hand plant excessively steep slopes and wet sites.

Following these guidelines will minimize or prevent erosion from occurring and sediment from entering nearby waterways.