

## **FAQ for V-Bar 2013 Timber Sale**

### **Q. Why are you removing all the trees in this area?**

A. This area was significantly affected by previous hurricanes and left in a poor forest health condition. It is unusable for hiking and scout activities because of the dense underbrush. Because the quantity and size of trees is sparse, the underbrush will continue to flourish - preventing the natural regeneration of native timber species. By completely removing the remaining trees in the timber sale area (see map) we are able to begin the restoration process of planting native longleaf pine.

### **Q. Where will this take place?**

A. See attached map

### **Q. When will the harvest occur?**

A. The harvest is planned for Fall 2013.

### **Q. What can we expect to see or hear?**

A. You may not even notice the harvest operation is active. However, it is possible that you'll hear the sounds of heavy harvesting machinery moving through the forest and cutting trees. You may even see machines like harvesters, skidders, and log trucks on the property.

### **Q. How can I see what is taking place?**

A. Please keep away from the harvesting operation, even if it looks like there is no activity. Harvesting sites are dangerous operations and operate under strict Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines.

### **Q. How long will the harvest operation take?**

A. Depending on the weather conditions, the harvest operation could last as long as 2 to 3 months.

### **Q. What is the restoration timeline?**

A. Removing the standing timber is the first step in this process. Next summer, the tract will be site prepared with a controlled burn which removes and eliminates competing vegetation. Next winter, the tract will be hand planted with longleaf pine seedlings. After two years of growth and establishment, the tract will begin a regular cycle of controlled burns which eliminates competition - helping the trees grow faster.

### **Q. Who is performing the harvest operation?**

A. A qualified certified logger, experienced in harvesting operations will be selected to conduct the harvest. Regular inspections from the forester will guarantee that the operator is performing the harvest to the Mississippi Best Management Practices for Forestry.

([http://www.mfc.ms.gov/pdf/Mgt/WQ/Entire\\_bmp\\_2008-7-24.pdf](http://www.mfc.ms.gov/pdf/Mgt/WQ/Entire_bmp_2008-7-24.pdf))

**Q. What does this harvest accomplish?**

A. The harvest will remove the low volume of standing timber, remove the thick understory of undesired wood species, reduce the risk of wildfire, make the tract easier to plant, and begin the restoration process of bringing the native longleaf pine forest back to this site.

**Q. Where will the forest animals that live in this area go?**

A. Forest animals like deer, turkey, quail, songbirds, and raccoons are quick to adapt and find new places to shelter. While the harvest operation will likely displace these animals for a short time, the forestland surrounding the harvest area provides ample carrying capacity and cover to support any populations of displaced animals.

**Q. What steps will be made to control erosion?**

A. The harvesting contract will contain provisions that instruct the operator to conform to the Best Management Practices for Forestry in Mississippi. One option the contractor has is to install water bars (mounds of soil that direct water runoff away from the roads and streamside management zones) on skid trails and roads where erosion hazards may occur.