

# About the Manual

THIS MANUAL IS PART OF A BROAD UNDERTAKING TO educate the forestry community in effective management techniques to safeguard our land and waters and to wisely use the resources found in this state.

A private-public partnership of the Louisiana Forestry Association (LFA), the Louisiana Department of Environment Quality, and the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry has formulated this guidebook on the state's non-regulatory Best Management Practices (BMPs). It is hoped that such education will help reduce forest soil movement toward the waters of the state.

This revised manual is only a small part of this campaign. Significant progress has already been made in the protection of Louisiana's water quality through increased use of BMPs. From 1989 to 1997, the use of BMPs has increased eightfold. The latest survey by the Louisiana Office of Forestry found that 83 percent of survey sites in 1997 used

BMPs. Our goal is to achieve 90 percent compliance on the year 2000 survey.

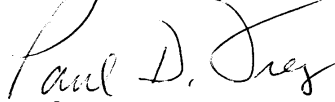
The LAF and The Louisiana Logging Council have also implemented a five-step training curriculum that involves loggers, foresters and landowners. A Master Logger designation recognizes loggers completing 30 hours of training in various aspects of forest management, including BMPs. Master Loggers will complete six hours of continuing education annually to retain that title.

Over the last four years, 2,634 people have attended one or more of these classes and 500 loggers have attained Master Logger designation.

These accomplishments have been a great educational undertaking and a great success. We are proud of the progress and look forward to a bright future for Louisiana's forest environment and the forest professionals who provide the resources we grow and use.



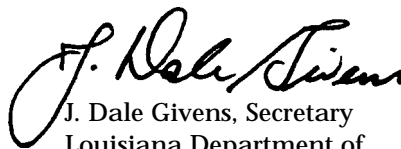
Bob Odom, Commissioner  
Louisiana Department of  
Agriculture and Forestry



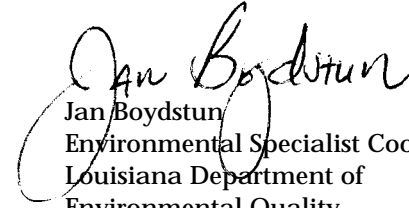
Paul D. Frey  
Assistant Commissioner and  
State Forester  
Louisiana Department of  
Agriculture and Forestry



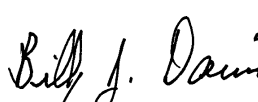
Don Powell, President  
The Louisiana Forestry Association



J. Dale Givens, Secretary  
Louisiana Department of  
Environmental Quality



Jan Boydston  
Environmental Specialist Coordinator  
Louisiana Department of  
Environmental Quality



Billy J. Davis, President  
The Louisiana Logging Council