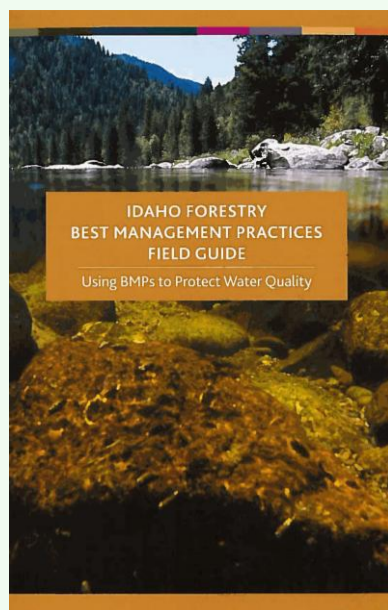


New field guide and web site help forest owners and managers apply forestry laws to protect water

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(COEUR D'ALENE) - A new field guide and companion web site will help forest landowners, managers, and operators apply Idaho's mandatory forestry best management practices (BMPs) to maintain water quality and other environmental values while harvesting and growing renewable forest trees.



Thousands of free copies of the new **Idaho Forestry Best Management Practices Field Guide** are now available across Idaho, and a new web site, www.idahoforestrybmps.org, provides online access to the guide.

Forest management practices on federal, state, and private lands in Idaho must meet or exceed the requirements of the Idaho Forest Practices Act and complementary administrative rules. Water quality is a primary emphasis in the rules.

The goals of many forestry BMPs are to reduce the potential for sediment delivery into streams, stabilize sediment already in streams and riparian areas, and maintain cool water temperatures necessary for healthy aquatic habitats. The BMPs ensure timber harvesting operations, road building, reforestation, and stream protection measures maintain and enhance water quality and other valuable forest resources while supporting a vibrant economy. BMPs also assure that after harvest, Idaho forests are regrown for the future.

The 149-page guide includes:

- The science related to forests, forest hydrology, aquatic ecology and related biology;
- Idaho Forest Practices Act rules
- Graphics, photos and charts illustrating BMPs
- "How to" information on BMPs and permitting requirements
- Highly recommended voluntary management practices

Hard copies of the books are available at the following locations:

- **Idaho Department of Lands offices statewide.** Contact information available at <http://www.idl.idaho.gov/contact.html>
- **Idaho Forest Products Commission office.** Contact information available at <http://www.idahoforests.org>
- **University of Idaho Extension Forestry.** Contact information available at <http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/idahoforestrybmps/>

The Idaho Forestry BMP Field Guide was produced by University of Idaho Extension in partnership with the Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Forest Products Commission, Idaho Forest Owners Association, Idaho's Tree Farm Program, Associated Logging Contractors, Project Learning Tree, the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, and the U.S. Forest Service.

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