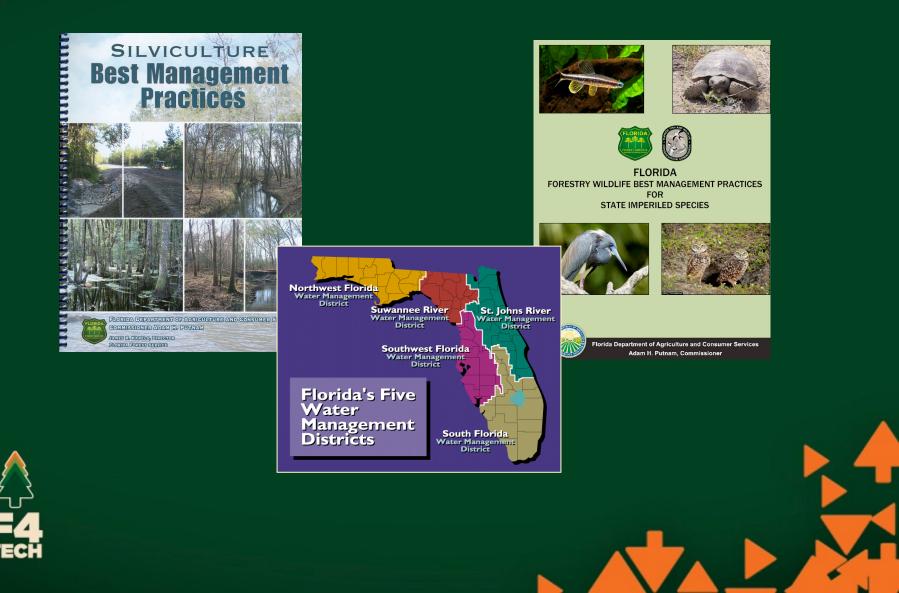
#### History of Florida Forestry Regulation



- 1970 U.S. Congress created EPA
- 1972 EPA passed the Clean Water Act (CWA)
   <u>EPA</u> began regulating "WOTUS"
- 1972 Florida Water Management Districts created
- 1975 Florida Legislature created the Department of Environmental Regulation (Mid-90's became DEP)
- 1977 CWA amended to include:

"Non-point Source Pollution"



**1978 Florida Silviculture BMPs published** 



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

A Landowner's Handbook for Controlling Erosion

• 1984 DER passed the Warren S. Henderson

**Wetlands Protection Act** 

**Florida** began regulating "Waters of the State"

• 1985 DER Designated Water Management Districts to Regulate Agriculture, i.e., Silviculture





#### **Forestry "Regulation"**

- 1986 Noticed General Permit (NGP)
  - Simple permit form

Free!

Northwest Florid Water Management District

> Florida's Five Water Management

Districts

Suwannee River

Southwest Florida Water Management

> South Florida Water Managemer District

Water Manage District St. Johns River

Manage District



- Were some issues with the NGP:
  - WMD criteria was different
  - Late 1990's \$250.00





- 2000 Florida Legislature passed the **Right to Farm Act** 
  - Prohibited Local Governments from regulating silviculture
    - Provided that Silviculture BMPs were used and the land classified was classified as agriculture



• <u>Lots of Meetings</u> with counties; these were ultimately successful

• 2011 DACS promulgates rule 5M-15 F.A.C.

 Rule 5M-15 authorized DACS to make <u>"binding determinations</u>" regarding exempt activities





#### Silviculture is technically Agriculture

#### **Under rule 5M-15**

• FFS can make binding determinations on the exempt status of any forestry operation.





#### **Forestry "Regulation"**

Given this new legislative authority FFA and FFS approached DEP Proposed a major change to the NGP





- 2011 <u>No-Fee</u>, Noticed <u>Exemption</u> <u>DEP</u> rule: 62-330.0511 F.A.C.
- Same simple form
- Same criteria in all Districts







# To Qualify for the Exemption

THE ACTIVITIE MUST BE:
On-going silviculture
Normal and customary
Must follow the old Silviculture NGP criteria
Must use Silviculture BMPs





# SILVICULTURE EXEMPTION

Silviculture Activities That Require Notice

#### Stream/Wetland Crossings

- Culverts
- Low-water Crossings
- Bridges

≻Above Grade Upland and Wetland Roads

≻Ditches:

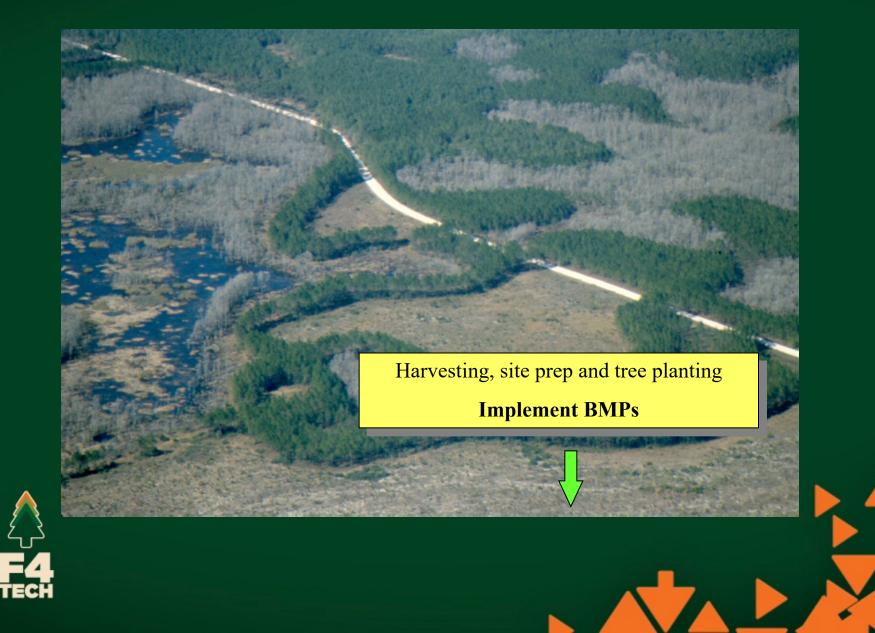
- Roadside Ditches
- Upland Field Ditches

#### ≻Borrow Pits

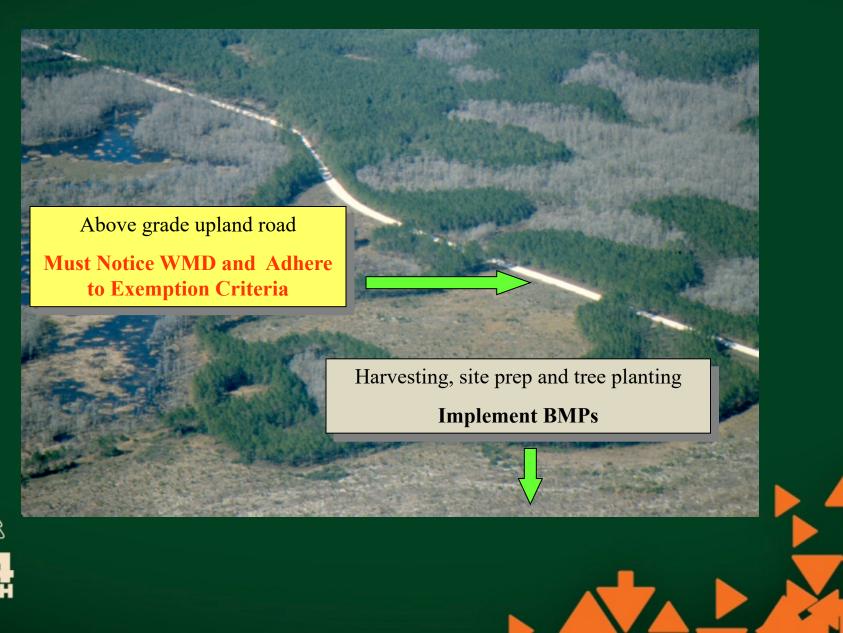


Clearing and Snagging/Temporary Channel Diversions









#### Example



Stream or wetland crossing

Must Notice WMD and Adhere to Exemption Criteria

Above grade upland road **Must Notice WMD and Adhere to Exemption Criteria** 

Harvesting, site prep and tree planting

**Implement BMPs** 



# SILVICULTURE EXEMPTION Stream/Wetland Crossings







All Crossings - Clearing and Snagging 50'

## **SILVICULTURE EXEMPTION** Above Grade Upland Road



Above-grade Upland Roads not > 28'



Wetland Roads not  $> \frac{1}{2}$  acre of Fill



# **SILVICULTURE EXEMPTION**

#### 62-330.0511 F.A.C.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO CONSTRUCT A MINOR SILVICULTURAL SYSTEM

Instructions: This form is for projects that qualify for a No-fee Noticed Exemption for Construction, Operation, Maintenance, Alteration, Abandonment, or Removal of Minor Silvicultural Surface Water Management Systems in accordance with Rule 62-330.0511, F.A.C. Please submit an 8 1/2" X 11" detailed location map. It should contain enough information to allow someone who has general familiarity with the area to locate the site. Rule 62-330.0511, F.A.C., which specifies the information requirements to complete this Notice, is available from the District.

Name: Last:	First:	Middle:
Title:	Comp	pany:
Address:		
City:	State	e: Zip:
Home Telephone:		Work Telephone:
Cell Phone:		Fax:
E-mail Address:		
Correspondence will be se	nt via email. Check here	to instead receive correspondence via US Mail:
B. LAND OWNER(S) (IF DI	FFERENT FROM OR IN	ADDITION TO APPLICANT)
Name: Last:	First:	Middle:
Title:	Com	pany:
Address:		
City:	State	e: Zip:
Home Telephone:		Work Telephone:
Cell Phone:		Fax:
E-mail Address:		
Correspondence will be se	nt via email. Check here	to instead receive correspondence via US Mail:
ART 1: GENERAL INFO		n)
construction	alteration	maintenance 🗌 removal 🗌 abandonmer
		hs 62-330.0511(3)(a-j) may qualify for a noticed exemption. After system you propose? (Please check at least one letter.)
🗌 a 🗌 b	c d	]e []f []g []h []i []j
PART 3: CERTIFICAT	ΓΙΟΝ	
	A design of the second	



# **SILVICULTURE EXEMPTION**

- YOU WILL GET A RESPONSE FROM THE WMD
  - May be a call or an email:

Do you want the WMD to certify the Exemption (\$100)
 Do you want a Section 404 review

• Your answer to both should be NO





#### **Forestry "Regulation"**

- 2014 Wildlife BMPs
  - Chapter 270.94 F.S.
    - Provides that Wildlife BMPs are Voluntary!
    - Local governments can't co-opt the law
    - No need for "Incidental Take" permit



### History of Florida Forestry Regulation

#### That brings us up to date

#### From 1970 to 2023 - More than 50 Years

#### Thanks to the Florida Forestry Association

#### Forestry is Still Going Strong!



