



**TEXAS EXCELLENCE
IN LAND MANAGEMENT**

Texas Excellence in Land Management Checklist		
Resource Elements	Practice or Accomplishment ^{1,2}	Accomplishment Point Value
General Property Management	Boundary lines well defined (adequate fencing, paint, or signs)	5
	Protect historical/cultural resources	3
	Use consulting forester/arborist	2
	Current member of Landowner Association, etc.	2
	Estate Plan or Succession Plan in place ⁶	2
Soil and Water	Voluntary BMPs used and maintained	10
	New riparian zone establishment (plant and protect/keep intact)	8
	Riparian area repair and planting	6
	Protect waterbodies from livestock	4
	Waterways clean of materials such as litter, harvest debris, etc.	5
	Wetland protection/keep intact	4
	Windbreak or living snow fence establishment	10
Fish and Wildlife	Inventory species of interest ³	2
	Manipulate populations (hunting/fishing); augment populations	4
	Permanent food plots/corridors:	
	Installation (for annual use)	8
	Maintenance	4
	Constructed wetland (shallow water impoundment, green tree reservoir)	10
	Tree planting for wildlife	10
	Artificial cavities/nest boxes for birds and mammals, including bats; other supplemental shelter (rock piles, brush piles, leave snags, etc.)	3
	Threatened/endangered species habitat improvement	10
	Enrolled in threatened/endangered species Habitat Conservation Plan/Safe	8
	Wildlife forage monitoring	2
	Provide supplemental water	8
	Fisheries improvements:	
	Pond Stocking (based on survey)	4
	Pond fertilization	4
	Water control structures (dams, etc.)	3
Pond habitat improvement structures (spawning and protection structures, silt ponds, etc.)	2	
Forest Health	Active monitoring for pests and disease	2
	Prompt treatment for southern pine beetle, emerald ash borer, Texas leaf-cutting ants, gophers, etc.	5

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Forest Health	Control undesirable species (for the area) and invasive plant species	5
	Oak wilt control (trenching, fungicide treatment, plantings)	10
Wildfire Mitigation	Prescribed fire in the last 5 years for understory control, competition reduction, plant community enhancement, wildlife habitat enhancement, fuel reduction	10
	Prescribed fire in the last 10 years (if current owner) for understory control, competition reduction, plant community enhancement, wildlife habitat enhancement, fuel reduction	5
	Permanent road or firebreak along property boundary established and maintained.	4
	Interior roads, trails or firebreaks established where practical to support prescribed burning, fire suppression access, break up large areas of continuous fuel.	3
	Mechanical landscape fuel reduction to reduce understory ladder fuels and decrease canopy density of volatile species	3
	Planting for restoration of native fire adapted ecosystem (longleaf, short leaf, and loblolly pine, native prairie grasses, oak savanna)	8
	HIZ (Home Ignition Zones) created and maintained:	
	Immediate Zone (0-5'): clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves and debris, repair loose shingles, 1/8" metal mesh screen over vents, move flammable material away from wall exteriors, remove anything stored under decks	5
	Intermediate Zone (5-30'): keep lawn and native grasses mowed, remove ladder fuels, tree crowns should be spaced about 18' from each other and 10' from the edge of the structure	3
	Extended Zone (30-100'): remove dead plant/tree material, remove small conifers growing between mature trees, remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds and other structures	2
Clearance and access for emergency vehicles (12' tall by 11' wide)	5	
Range Management	Rotational/controlled grazing system (in forested areas)	8
Recreation, Aesthetics, and Environment	Recreational or educational trail establishment	3
	Plant and/or protect native grasses, trees, and shrubs	4
	Plant pollinator-friendly species (wildflowers, flowering trees, and shrubs)	4
	Plant and/or protect rare plant communities	4
	Tree planting for shade	10
	Protect young trees and shrubs from wildlife and livestock	2
	Establish and/or maintain bee hives	4
	Leave aesthetic management zone (AMZ) along public roads in harvest area	2
	Special organized hunts, tours, wildlife viewing, educational events on property	3

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Recreation, Aesthetics, and Environment	High Conservation Value Forest (HCVF) protected under Conservation easement or similar agreement (buffer to National Forest, T&E species management, etc.)	8
	Carbon credits obtained; following agreement	2
Timber	Timber Harvest ⁴ - includes thinning, selective harvest, salvage cut after storm or insect damage	10
	Tree planting/natural regeneration established ⁵	10
	Timber Stand Improvement - includes herbicide application, pruning, mulching, other mechanical means	5
	Forest product production other than lumber and pulp (posts, poles, firewood, biofuels, craft material, etc.)	5
Miscellaneous	Two or more new practices were implemented after specified in the written plan	4
	Describe Practice:	
Minimum Points Required:		30
Total:		

1. Stewardship practices listed on Nomination Form must have been implemented within last 5 years.
2. BMPs must be followed when any practice is implemented. BMP Resources can be found at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/BMP/>.
3. Wildlife species of interest should be identified in the plan.
4. Regeneration plans must be in place before final harvest is made in order to include the harvest as an accomplishment.
5. Seedlings must have been in the ground for a year, or at least until first survival check, and have acceptable survival before planting can be considered “established.”
6. Estate Plan or Successor Plan should have provisions for sound stewardship practices in management of the property.

