

# FOREST STEWARDSHIP

GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION



## Forest Steward Designation Evaluation Form

*For Central Office Use Only:*

Certified Forest #: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Certified: \_\_\_\_\_

Landowners enrolled in Georgia's Forest Stewardship Program should periodically be evaluated to ensure they are on the path of good land stewardship. **Before a landowner can be honored as a Forest Steward, a completed copy of this evaluation form along with a copy of the forest stewardship plan must be provided to the local District Stewardship Forester.** The District Stewardship Forester will then perform a site visit to review the property and landowner accomplishments. Representatives from USDA-NRCS and DNR Wildlife Resources Division will be provided with evaluation information as well as any comments from the District Stewardship Forester's visit. USDA-NRCS and DNR Wildlife Resources Division have 60 days to review the nomination and after that time period, if no objections are raised the District Stewardship Forester will certify the landowner as a *Forest Steward*. A landowner enrolled in the program may not yet be eligible for certification (landowner should be enrolled for at least two years). If that is the case, this form should be filled out as an evaluation of their progress to date and management recommendations provided that will aid the landowner in attaining *Forest Steward* status. This evaluation form should be completed with recommendations for improvement supplied on page 3. A copy of this should be given to both the landowner and the District Stewardship Forester.

To be honored as *Forest Stewards*, all landowners, regardless of their primary and secondary management objectives, will have to meet all of the minimum standards as listed on the next page. Unusual circumstances may exist which prevents a standard from being met. An explanation of these should be provided. Landowners will also have to demonstrate substantial accomplishments toward their primary and secondary management objectives by following the recommendations made in their Forest Stewardship Plan. Their accomplishments must be documented as follows: Practices recommended in the Forest Stewardship Plan must be listed on page 3 of this form and an assessment of the landowner action or inaction should be listed for each practice, along with any pertinent comments.

### LANDOWNER INFORMATION

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Owner's Names (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Office: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Author & Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Objective: \_\_\_\_\_ Secondary Objective: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acres: \_\_\_\_\_ Forested Acres: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorizing Signatures:

Supporting Signatures:

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Nominating Forester/Biologist*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*DNR Representative*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*District Stewardship Forester*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*NRCS Representative*

**MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ALL LANDOWNERS**

	Yes	No	N/A
<b>Timber Resource</b>			
Land has been properly managed as to promote forest health of the total tract?			
Salvaged when damaged?			
Regeneration planned prior to harvest?			
Regeneration carried out after harvest?			
Burning regulations followed?			
Pesticide labels and regulations followed?			
<b>Soil and Water Resource</b>			
Wetlands laws and regulations followed?			
Severe soil erosion controlled on identified critical areas?			
Soil conservation practices used on agricultural land?			
BMP's followed for all forestry activities?			
<b>Wildlife Resource</b>			
All game laws followed?			
Adequate wildlife corridor maintained on all waterways?			
Maintain at least two timber types with a minimum of 15% of forested acres in the smallest timber type?			
Fire restricted from hardwood stands?			
Rare, threatened and endangered species protected as required?			
Landowner maintains a minimum of 2.5% of property in wildlife openings?			
<b>Recreation and Aesthetics Resources</b>			
Property used for a recreational purpose?			
Publicly visible parts of the tract maintained in an aesthetically pleasing manner?			
<b>Conservation</b>			
Any special natural areas have been properly identified and their protection provided for?			

Explain any "No" responses here: \_\_\_\_\_

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