

Federal Landowner Executive Summary

In the fall of 2024, large and federal landowner timber sales were monitored for the application and effectiveness of Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Water Quality. Large lands had 25 sites selected for monitoring, and federal lands had 33 sites. These sites were chosen because of the water resources in, or adjacent to, the sale. Sites were required to have a stream, lake, or wetland within or bordering the timber sale, wetland harvesting, or a stream crossing to qualify for monitoring. Information on how the BMPs were implemented and how effective they were was recorded along with site information, such as sale size, season of harvest, water resources, forest roads, and tree species of the harvest area. There are 119 forestry BMPs for water quality in the state of Wisconsin, and the monitoring teams rated every applicable BMP for each sale monitored. BMPs were categorized as either applied correctly, applied incorrectly, or not applied. The applicable BMPs were then rated on effectiveness; the BMP can be rated to have no adverse impact, minor short or long-term impact, or major short or long-term impact.

General Site Information

Total Sites	33
Total Acres	1,422
Average Acreage	43
Most Common Season of Harvest	Winter
Dominant Timber Type	Aspen
Most Common Water Resource	Wetlands
Sites Containing Forest Road Systems	27
Sites Containing Active Forest Roads	20
Sites Containing Stream Crossings on Road System	0
Most Prominent Road Design and Construction	Flat and at Grade

Results

BMPs Applicable to Each Site	22.9%
BMPs Applied Correctly	96.2%
BMPs Not Applied Where Needed	2.6%
Highest BMP Correctly Applied by Category	100%, Fuels, Waste, and Spills
Lowest BMP Correctly Applied by Category	89.4%, Forest Roads
Effectiveness of BMPs Correctly Applied	100%
Water Quality Impact Rates from BMPs Not Applied	39.13%