

# Western Region BMP Newsletter Update

## **BMP Focus: As Winter Approaches...**

Rehabilitating and stabilizing exposed soil during the winter is more difficult. Grass won't grow very well in the cold weather.

In this time of year, it is critical to use alternative methods to establish groundcover for preventing sedimentation and controlling soil erosion on logging jobs. This is especially true on steep slopes and nearby to streams or other waterways.

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT.22 @ North Wilkesboro: Tree Care Workshop. Contact Wilkes Cooperative Extension: 336-651-7330.

NOV.19 @ Lexington: Urban Tree Care and Forest Management Workshop. Contact Davidson Cooperative Extension: 336-242-2080.

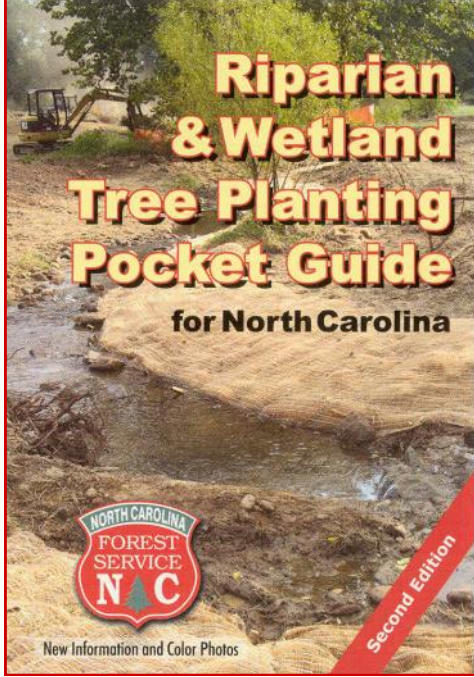
DEC.12 @ Hickory: Erosion & Sediment Control Planning and Design Workshop. Contact NC-WRRI: 919-515-2815.

### **Got Christmas Tree Fever?**

Visit the online North Carolina General Store at [www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov), and find a North Carolina-grown Christmas tree near you (look in *Nursery & Gardening*)

## HAVE YOU SEEN ME?

This pocket guide was last printed in 2008. We are seeking feedback to determine if we need to reprint more copies, because our inventory is nearly depleted. Let us know if you think this is a valuable reference that we should continue to provide, and how many copies you think you would need. Email us your advice at [forestry.npsunit@ncagr.gov](mailto:forestry.npsunit@ncagr.gov).



## **BMP Focus: As Winter Approaches...**

### **Some other ways to establish groundcover and stabilize bare soil:**

- ◆ **During the logging work, apply, mat-down, and work-in leftover tree limbs, tops, slash, and laps on sloping sections of skid trails and stream crossing approachways on skid trails.**
- ◆ **If you operate a wood chipper, cover the critical bare soil areas with a thick layer of wood chips before leaving.**
- ◆ **Apply a thick layer of wheat straw that covers the bare soil.**
- ◆ **Unroll and stake down coir (coconut fiber) matting, excelsior matting, or other natural fiber matting. These are examples of “rolled erosion control products” that work especially well on stream crossing approachways, along disturbed stream or ditch banks, and within roadside ditches.**

**In 2010, the N.C. Forest Service produced a 30-minute video showing how to install silt fence and erosion control matting. If you want a DVD copy, send us an email with your name and address: [forestry.npsunit@ncagr.gov](mailto:forestry.npsunit@ncagr.gov). Quantities are limited.**

**Rolled erosion control matting (excelsior matting) is seen applied along the bank of this newly rebuilt logging road. The matting must be securely stapled onto the ground with U-shaped metal wire staples. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the placement of staples, usually no wider than 12 inches on center.**





Erosion control matting is shown in the two above photos of the same site. Left photo was taken immediately after BMP work was completed. Right photo shows the same site, a few months later. This is a good example of “BMP stacking”, or using multiple BMP tools to achieve the desired solution. In this case, (1) a turnout was installed, (2) erosion control matting was applied, (3) rock check dams were installed, and (4) grass seed and straw were spread.

**Don't let winter rains wash away your BMP investment!  
Use BMPs early & often. Remember..... Risk Management**

*Erosion control matting*

*Ample gravel*

*Silt fence*



*Tree branches to cover exposed soil*

**This new ford crossing also shows BMP stacking, and innovation to use whatever resources you have available!**

# North Carolina Forest Service

Forestry Nonpoint Source Branch  
1616 Mail Service Center. Raleigh, NC. 27699-1616



## District Office BMP Contacts

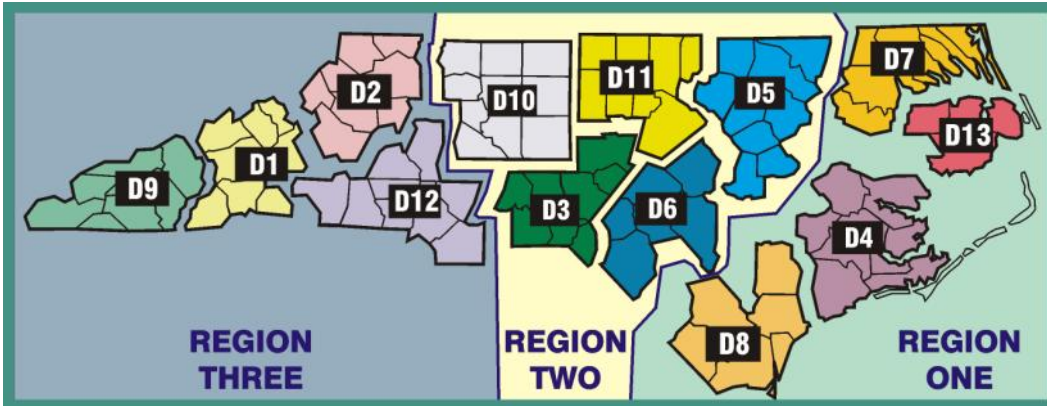
High Country, Northern Foothills: D-2  
Lenoir: 828-757-5611  
Roger Miller, Water Quality Forester

Catawba Valley, Southern Foothills: D-12  
Mount Holly: 704-827-7576  
Beth Plummer, Water Quality Forester

Central Mountains: D-1  
Asheville: 828-667-5211  
Caleb Jones, Assistant District Forester

Western Mountains: D-9  
Sylva: 828-586-4007  
Hugh Hassell, Assistant District Forester

Western Region Office: R-3  
Asheville: 828-665-8688  
Michael Cheek, Asst. Regional Forester



### Surf The Web

Manage and Protect Your Forest - [www.ncforestservice.gov](http://www.ncforestservice.gov)

NCDA&CS Agricultural Services - [www.ncagr.gov](http://www.ncagr.gov)

Keep Your Home Safe From Wildfire - [www.ncfirewise.org](http://www.ncfirewise.org)

Go Out and Learn in the Forest - [www.ncsf.org](http://www.ncsf.org)

Locate NC-Grown Farm and Forestry Products - [www.ncfarmfresh.com](http://www.ncfarmfresh.com)

## Let's Play a Game: What's Wrong With This Picture?

See how many potential BMP problems you can identify in this photo.  
(No, this is not the same photo used in the previous edition. Get the point?).



ANSWER:

Even though bridgemenats are being used, there is excessive logging debris obstructing this stream, a violation of FPG rule .0202.

BMPs only work if they are used, and used correctly. This photo was taken in June 2013 on a tract in northwestern NC.