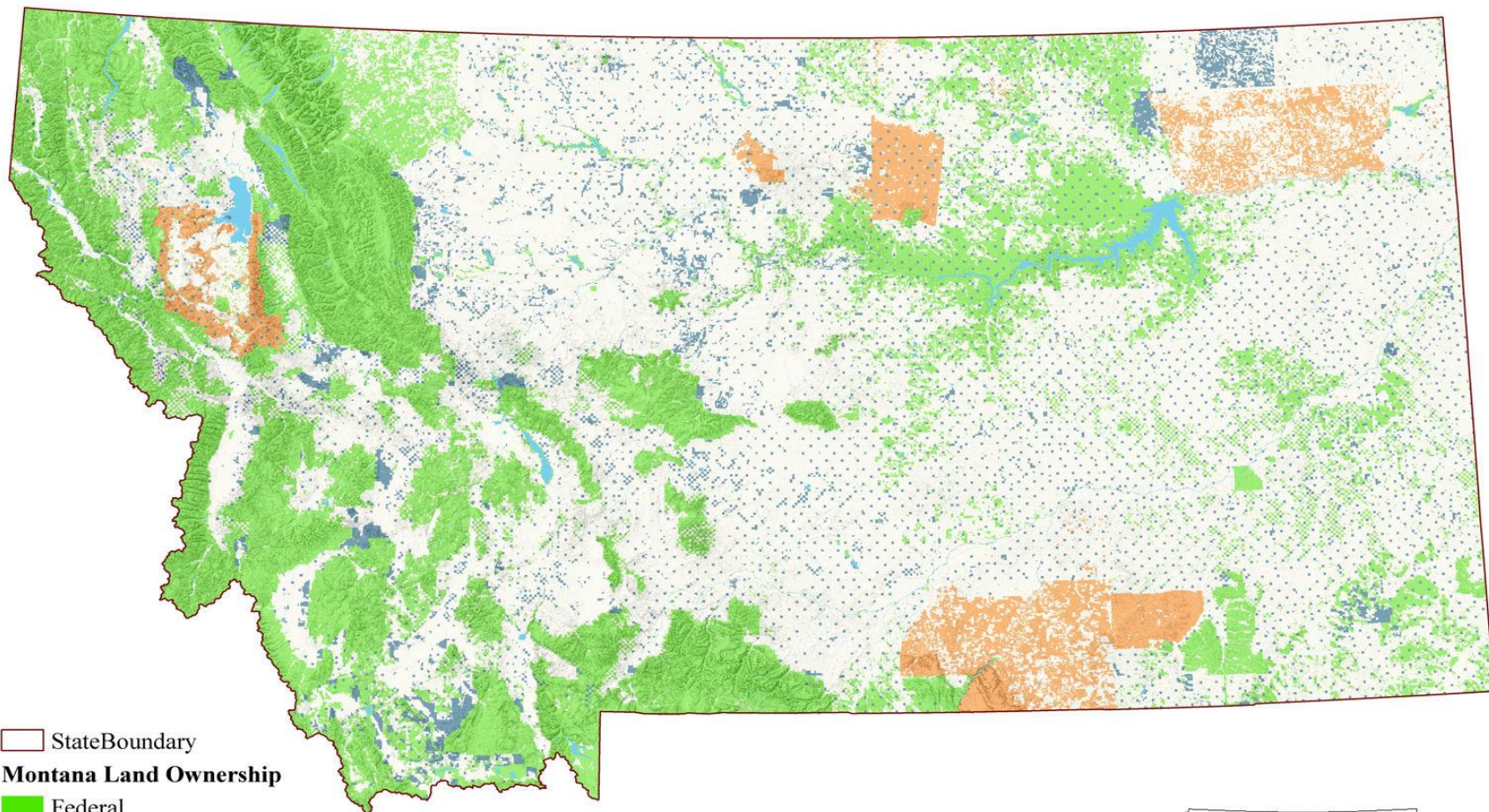


History of Forest Tenure and Regulation in Montana

A winter landscape with snow-covered evergreen trees and mountains in the background. The scene is dominated by white snow and dark green trees under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a large, smooth snowdrift is visible. In the middle ground, several evergreen trees are heavily laden with snow. In the background, a range of mountains with snow-capped peaks stretches across the horizon.

Bob Harrington
Montana State Forester

MONTANA - 2007



StateBoundary

Montana Land Ownership

- Federal
- Private
- State
- Tribal
- Water



Montana Forest Statistics



- **Total Area: 381,000 sq. km.**
 - 4th largest state in U.S.
- **Population: 1 million**
- **Total Forest: 22 million ac (9 million ha.)**
 - 60% National Forest
 - 24% Private Family
 - 8% Corporate
 - 8% State or Tribal
- **Average Timber Harvest:**
 - 1.2 million cubic meters
- **Forest Products Industry:**
 - 14 wood products mills
 - 10 log home / post-rail plants
 - 600 logging professionals
 - 5,000 mill/truck workers
- **Annual Value of Wood/Paper Products:**
 - \$750 million US

Origins of Montana Forest Practices Regulatory Framework



- **1989: Forestry at a Crossroads**
 - Federal Clean Water Act
 - Potential of Federal Enforcement
 - Pressure for Forest Practices Act
- **Non-regulatory approach**
 - Montana Best Management Practices (BMP) Law
 - Landowner/Logger Education
 - Monitoring
- **Unlike other states**
 - California, Washington, Oregon

Goal: Improve Forest Practices

From this.....



To this.....



From this.....



To this.....

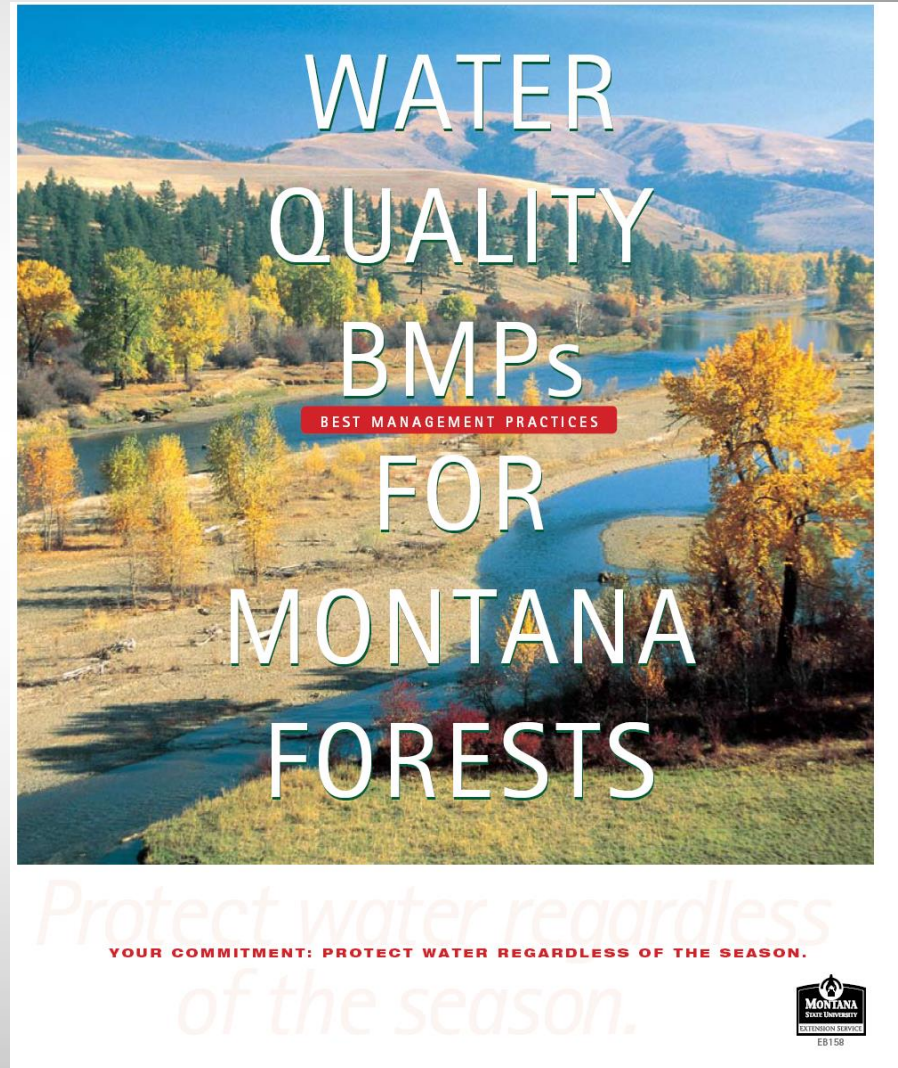


Forestry Best Management Practices (BMPs):

Minimum standards for protecting soil/water quality

Emphasis:

- *Road Construction*
- *Timber Harvesting*
- *Stream Crossings*
- *Hazardous Substances*
- *Streamside Management Zones*



Focus on Education & Monitoring



Loggers

- ✓ Accredited Logger Professional Program
- ✓ Stewardship Education for Loggers

Landowners

- ✓ Forest Stewardship Program
- ✓ Individual on-site advice



Monitoring

- ✓ Field audits every two years
- ✓ Report to state legislature
- ✓ Additional regulation when justified by audits
 - ✓ 1991 Streamside Management Zone Law

Best Management Practices Audit Process:

- *Interdisciplinary Audit Teams*
 - *Review 45 sites statewide*
 - *Rate BMP Application and Effectiveness*
 - *Publication of results*
 - *Continual process improvement*



Results: BMP Audit Trends 1990 vs. 2012



Category	1990	2012
<i>Successful Application of All BMPs</i>	78%	98%
<i>Successful Application of High Risk BMPs</i>	53%	93%
<i>% Sites with Major Departure</i>	61%	7%
<i>Average Number of Impacts per Site</i>	8	1

Role of State Government



Educate:

- Loggers
- Landowners

Coordinate:

- Technical Committee
- Audit Process

Monitor/Report:

- State Legislature
- Public

Keys to Success



Government Involvement

- Federal Pressure
- State Legislation
- Agency Education & Coordination

Non-regulatory Process

- Emphasis on Education
- Landowner/Industry Involvement
- Self-Regulation

Proven Results

- Monitoring/ Audits
- Biennial Report

Applying the Montana Model in Other States/Countries



- **Establish Goals**
- **Pressure / incentives from central government**
- **“Progressive Regulation”**
- **Match the prevailing culture**
- **Locally driven**
- **Industry & political support**



Thank You!

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