 **Steven W. Troxler**  
Commissioner

 **Greg Hicks**  
Assistant Commissioner/  
State Forester

District 4- FM Plan  
Request # 56053  
Projects – Pitt County  
Parcel # 14687  
Harrah, Ryan : 35° 27.000' / -77° 13.140'

June 25, 2025  
3810 M.L. King Jr. Blvd  
New Bern, NC 28562

Ryan Harrah  
151 Ashwood Lane  
 Mooresville, NC 28117

Dear Landowner:

On 6/20/2025, Pitt County Ranger Robin Weber and I examined your woodland properties located off Gaskins Road in Pitt County. You had requested that the N.C. Forest Service provide you with forest management recommendations for your property. I understand that your objective is to manage your timber to maximize future sawtimber production.

Enclosed is a "Woodland Management Plan and Map." The plan lists our recommendations for managing your woodland property on parcel 14687. The acreage figures used in the plan are based on measurements from aerial photographs. Some additional information is given below.

### **Quick Summary of Needed Action**

- Area 1: Re-examine for a possible commercial thinning – 2030-2035

### **Present Condition and Recommendations**

**Area 1** (see enclosed map) is approximately 91 ± acres of an approximately 23-year-old loblolly pine plantation. Heights of dominant trees range from 75 to 85 feet with diameters ranging from 9 to 13 inches. Trees in Area 1 are currently considered pulpwood to chip-n-saw size. Species observed include American holly, black cherry, black gum, grape vine, greenbriar, loblolly pine, red maple, redbay, southern red oak, sweetgum, switchcane, and American beauty berry.

I recommend you thin Area 1 within the next 10 years. This thinning should target any sick diseased or damaged trees and should thin to around 80 square feet of basal area. Loblolly pine in Area 1 may start to approach financial maturity, hardwoods generally take between 65 and 80 years to reach financial maturity. Contact the N. C. Forest Service at that time for possible final harvest recommendations.

## Environmental Considerations

**Heavy equipment should stay off the area during wet periods.** The soil compaction, soil rutting, and soil structure deterioration from working on the tract under wet conditions can result in a tremendous reduction in site productivity.

On December 9, 1999, the North Carolina Environmental Management commission adopted rules to protect 50-foot wide riparian, or waterside, buffers along waterways in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins. These rules require protection of existing forest buffers along all intermittent and perennial streams, lakes, ponds, and estuaries located in the Neuse and Tar-Pamlico River Basins. It is extremely important that these rules be followed, as violating these rules can increase nutrients into waterways and also result in large fines. Enclosed you will find a "Neuse and Tar-Pamlico Buffer Rules" handout. This is a condensed version of the rule that outlines the specific forestry buffer requirements. When the "Riparian Buffer Rules" conflict with "Forest Practices Guidelines Related to Water Quality," the more protective shall apply.

Forest Practice Guidelines Related to Water Quality **must** also be followed to prevent water quality problems. This includes leaving a Streamside Management Zone (SMZ) along any intermittent and perennial streams and water bodies located on the property. I have enclosed information regarding "Forest Practices Guidelines Related to Water Quality" that **must** also be followed to prevent water quality problems during forestry activities.

## Selling Your Timber

**Because of the value of the future timber, I strongly encourage you to hire a private consulting forester to handle any future timber sales to ensure that both your financial interests and natural resources are not compromised.** A private consulting forester can cruise your timber to determine the volume of the timber present. With a good volume estimate and knowledge of local markets, a consulting forester can then provide you **with** a good appraisal of what your timber is worth. You will then know if you are receiving a good price for your timber. Also, a consulting forester is very knowledgeable with environmental regulations that must be followed during harvest. I have enclosed information about "Selecting a Consulting Forester," a "List of Consulting Foresters for Pitt County," a "List of Timber Buyers for Pitt County," and information about "Timber Sale Contracts."



**Other Considerations**


I would suggest you continue to maintain a close watch on your timber and look for any serious disease or insect infestations. Some signs to look for are clusters of dead pine trees or trees in which the entire crown has turned reddish-brown. If you suspect your timber may have a disease or insect causing damage, contact your County Ranger immediately.

By following this management plan and providing a copy to the Pitt County Tax Office, your woodland should qualify for present use valuation. This valuation is used on tracts of timber over 20 acres that are being managed in a responsible manner. This classification could greatly reduce your tax burden.

**Closing**

I recommend you thin Area 1 to 80 square feet of basal area within the next 10 years before re-examining for final harvest around 2045. If you have any questions, feel free to call Pitt County Ranger Robin Weber at 252-355-9079 or me at (252) 649-6775. We look forward to working with you on this project.

Sincerely,

  
Carson Ramsey  
Pending Registration  
D4 Service Forester

CR:RW:LH

Enclosures: Forest Practices Guidelines Related to Water Quality  
Neuse and Tar-Pamlico Buffer Rules  
Selecting a Consulting Forester  
List of Consulting Foresters for Pitt County  
List of Timber Buyers for Pitt County  
Timber Sale Contracts

cc: Robin Weber, Pitt County Ranger

**NORTH CAROLINA FOREST SERVICE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES**  
**WOODLAND MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**PRESCRIPTION SHEET FOR:** Ryan Harrah

**DATE:** June 25, 2025

**DESCRIPTION OF AREA:** Area 1

**ACRES:** 91±

Area 1 is occupied by a 23-year-old loblolly pine plantation.

**Soils Information**

Soil	Name	Site Index @ BA 50	Drainage Class
Le	Leaf silt loam	90	Poorly Drained
Na	Nahunta silt loam	87	Somewhat Poorly Drained

<b><u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u></b>	<b><u>BY WHOM AND WHEN</u></b>
1. Thin area 1 to 80 square feet of basal area within the next 10 years.	1. Landowner/Contractor (2033 to 2035).
2. Reexamine 17 to 27 years for possible final harvest recommendations.	2. Landowner to contact N.C. Forest Service for reexamination (2042 to 2052).

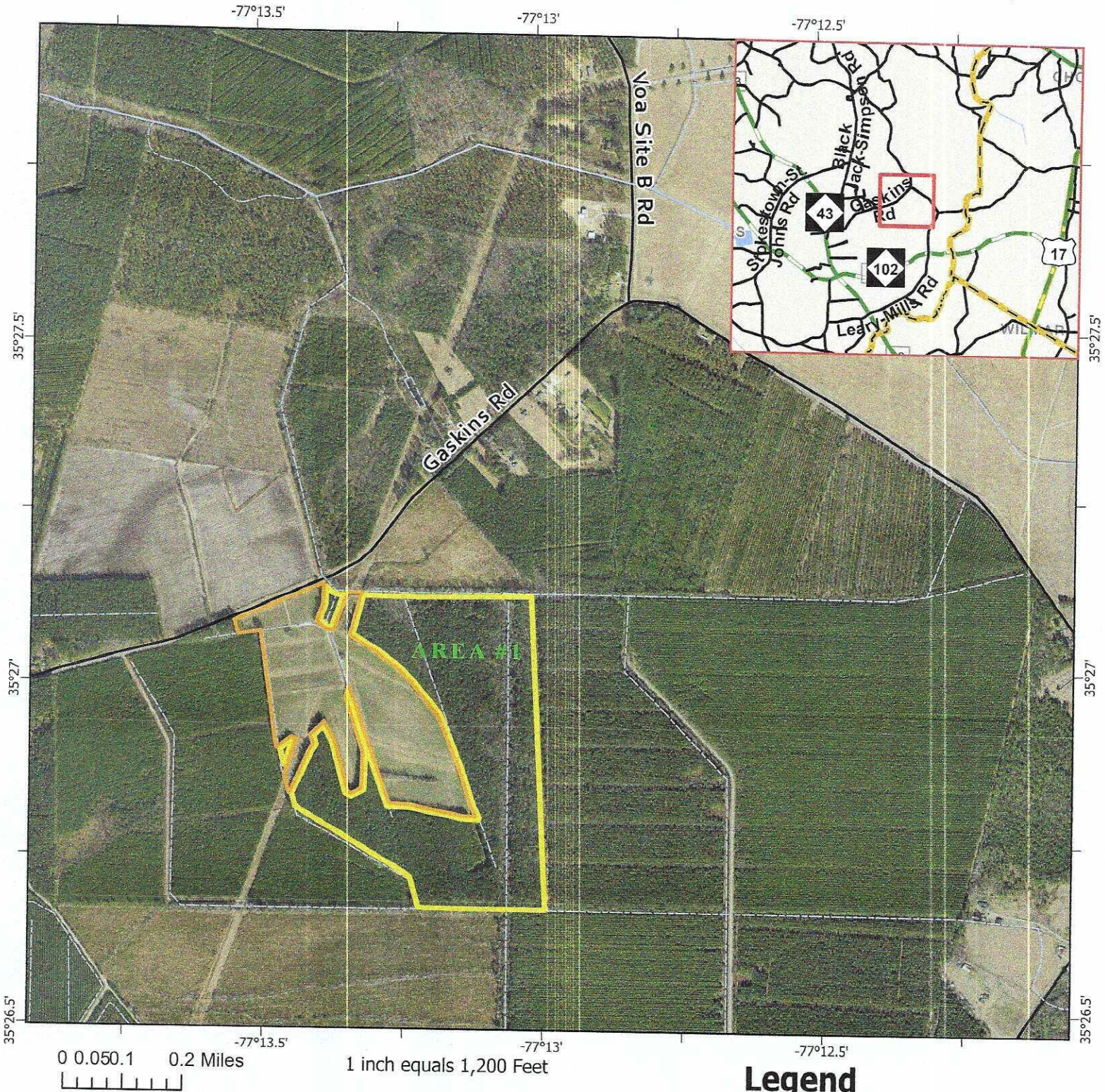
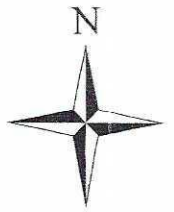
**ALL PRACTICES MUST MEET NCFS STANDARDS AND FOREST PRACTICES  
GUIDELINES RELATED TO WATER QUALITY.**





# N.C. Forest Service Woodland Management Map

Acreages and Boundaries are Approximate



## Legend

### Stand Boundary

- Area 1
- County Boundaries
- DWQ Classified Streams
- DWQ Unclassified Streams

### Roads

#### RouteClass

- Secondary Route
- Other

Landowner: Ryan Harrah  
County: Pitt  
Latitude: 35°27.000'N  
Longitude: -77°13.140'W  
Date Drawn: 06/25/25  
Drawn By: C. Ramsey  
Acres: ±91  
Parcel: 14687