



Support the EPA's Nonpoint Source Grant Program

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) categorical grants for non-point source pollution prevention, known as Section 319 funds, support the implementation of state-defined best management practices (BMPs) for protecting water resources.

Forestry BMPs are effective and practical ways to protect water quality before, during, and before silvicultural activities. Since the 1970s, state forestry agencies have been testing and improving BMPs. Today, all states have forestry BMPs that, on average nationally, are used appropriately and when needed by loggers 92 percent of the time.

In 2016, more than \$1.1 million of Section 319 funding was allocated to states to deliver forestry BMP programs across the country. These funds were matched 60:40 by the recipient states and went to support: (1) surveys/assessments of BMP implementation on logging sites; (2) training for landowners and governmental entities on BMPs; (3) logger education and workshops on BMPs; (4) investigation and resolution of water quality impacts from forestry operations; and (5) ongoing refinement and improvement of BMP standards.

In FY22, state and territorial foresters ask that \$177 million be allocated to EPA's Nonpoint Source Grant Program. Section 319 grants provide states with an effective, non-regulatory approach for achieving national environmental standards.

Success in Mississippi:

Section 319 grants have helped the Mississippi Forestry Commission train more than 400 staff, loggers, foresters, and landowners in forestry BMPs over the past two years. The agency also uses the program to conduct statewide surveys of BMP implementation and effectiveness. In the most recent survey, it found that forestry BMPs were implemented in 96 percent of applicable cases.

