

A person is riding a horse pulling a hayrack on a dirt road. The background shows a wooden fence, a house, and forested hills. The text "EMS in the Forest Service" is overlaid in large orange letters.

EMS in the Forest Service

Federal Environmental Symposium

June, 2008

What is EMS?

A **systematic** approach to identifying and managing an organization's **environmental** obligations and issues.

An EMS is a **tool** that helps an organization focus on and achieve key **environmental** objectives.

What is driving our EMS?

- Our desire to apply the principles of adaptive management to improve environmental performance and accountability.
- Executive Order 13423 and the 2008 Planning Rule
- *Both the EO and the Planning Rule require the agency to develop and implement an ISO 14001-conformant EMS*

National EMS Strategy

Area of concern for **Sustainable Operations** – cross-functional team formed under “Instructions for Implementing EO 13423”

Area of concern for **LMP Monitoring and Evaluation (MET) and Performance Accountability System (PAS)** under “Instructions for Implementing EO 13423”

Green Teams and other FS place-based Sustainability efforts

EMS

Focus Area 1

Sustainable Operations
Defined by
EO 13423 to start

Focus Area 2

Vegetation and
Transportation
System Management
to start

Focus Area 3

Local Options once National System Is
Functioning

Forest Service EMS Strategy

Guiding principles for Forest Service EMS

- Start **small** and **grow** the EMS within budget and organizational capacity.
- Make maximum use of existing systems.
- Build upon a foundation of success.
- Initiate an ISO 14001 conformant EMS addressing Fleet Management in 2008
- Make the EMS work for us, rather than us working for the EMS.



Scope of the EMS

- We have a National EMS that is implemented on all administrative units.
- Our EMS addresses all our activities that interact with the environment.
- For 2008 – Learn the principles of EMS
- Focus on Fleet Management as it relates to petroleum fuel reduction



EMS Guide & Unit Instructions

- The 17 elements of ISO 14001 are formally documented in the Forest Service EMS Technical Guide.
- Less technical 2008 EMS Unit Representative's Instructions and an EMS 101 Training material is available.



Significant Environmental Aspect

For 2008, the Forest Service will focus nationally on only one environmental significant aspect: **Fleet Management** as it relates to fuel consumption



Objectives, Targets, and Action Plan for Fleet Management



Objective: Reduce petroleum-based fuel consumption.

Targets: Reduce by 2% per year nationwide, and increase alternative fuel use by 10% annually



Action Plan: Tasks, resources, and timelines for accomplishing objectives and targets are detailed in the Fleet Management Implementation Plan.

Operational Controls

Operational controls are practices designed to mitigate or eliminate adverse environmental impacts associated with significant environmental aspects.

For 2008 Operational Controls are provided for Fleet Management :

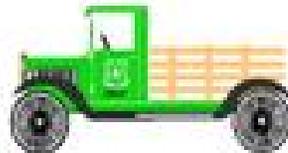
- Acquiring hybrid and other **fuel efficient** vehicle
- Encourage **carpooling** and ride sharing
- Follow **Eco-Driving tips**, which address vehicle maintenance and operation



Eco-Driving Tips

TOP 10 TIPS FOR CONSERVING FUEL

10. Don't exceed the speed limit.
9. Don't idle vehicles for more than a minute.
8. Check tire pressure at least monthly.
7. Make sure engine is properly tuned up—at least annually.
6. Don't haul unnecessary loads



5. No jackrabbit starts.
4. Drive smoothly—no fast speedups or slowdowns.
3. Choose the vehicle with the best fuel economy available
2. Commit to sharing trips.
- 1. THINK BEFORE YOU DRIVE! Is this trip really needed???**

Key Components

- Every administrative unit must have an **Environmental Emergency Response Plan** that addresses at a minimum:
 - Hazardous materials spills
 - Wildfire

Environmental Compliance Management fully integrated

Employees access and use a **Finding Notice** to:

- Suggest actions to reduce Environmental impacts
- Identify best management practices to share with others
- Suggest improvements to the EMS

In **2008** our **monitoring** will include:

- Fuel consumption and
- Application of Operational Controls

EMS Audits will be conducted on a sample of Units in 2008.

The **EMS Management Review** completes the adaptive management cycle.

How will EMS benefit the FS?

- EMS provides a framework for practicing adaptive management.
- Better integration among functions
- Better vertical communication
- Assists in prioritizing agency resources
- Cost savings through improved efficiency
- Better information systems



EMS will continually improve the effectiveness, efficiency, accountability and responsiveness of Forest Service natural resource management.

Where to find more information on the EMS

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