

FORESTRY *Leaflets*

North Carolina Division of Forest Resources

FM-6

SHELTERWOOD HARVESTS



SHELTERWOOD HARVEST IN MATURE PINES

Shelterwood harvests are usually recommended for mature stands where parent trees produce seed that will regenerate the area. With this method, the stand is removed in partial cuttings.

In North Carolina most shelterwood harvests involve only two cuts. The first, removes 60-80 per cent of the stand. Then, after natural regeneration takes place, the remainder of the stand is cut. The final harvest usually takes place three or four years after the initial cutting operation.

With proper planning and good execution, a shelterwood harvest can be an inexpensive method for regenerating certain desirable species. Usually, expensive and potentially soil damaging site preparation methods are avoided. Prescribed burning may be used for seed bed preparation and hardwood control when regenerating yellow pines.

For assistance on following through with this management system, contact your local Forest Ranger.

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