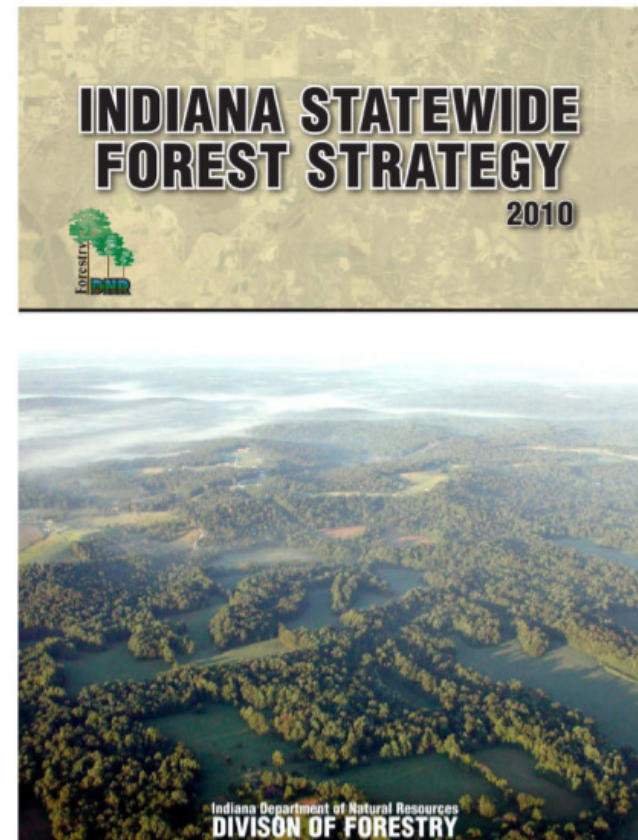
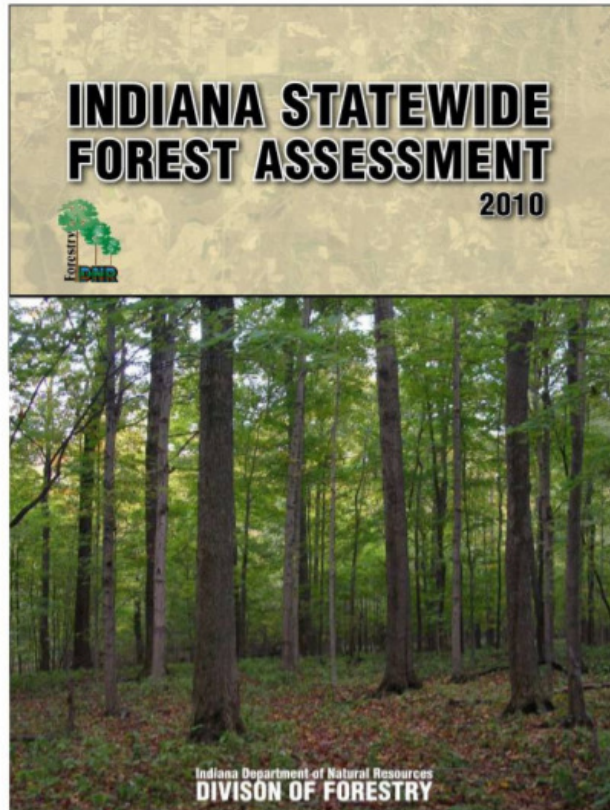


# Indiana Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy



Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry



<http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/5436.htm>

# Forest Action Plan

- Statewide planning with all Indiana stakeholders, partners, land stewards and conservationists
- Includes landscape scale assessment and strategy that spans all of Indiana's forest ownerships.
  - 5.1 million acres of forestland
  - 85% private and 15% public ownership
  - Urban forests

# Google: Statewide Forest Assessment

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/5436.htm>

The screenshot shows a Windows Internet Explorer browser window displaying the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR) website. The address bar shows the URL <http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/5436.htm>. The page features the IN.gov logo, a search bar, and navigation links for various departments. The main content area is titled "Indiana Department of Natural Resources DNR" and "Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy". It includes a sidebar with a navigation menu, a main text area with a purpose statement and links, and a right sidebar with "Online Services" and "Stay Connected" sections.

**IN.gov** SEARCH IN.gov Advanced Search DNR

About Indiana Agriculture & Environment Business & Employment Education & Training Family & Health Law & Justice Public Safety Taxes & Finance Tourism & Transportation

GOVERNOR MITCH DANIELS visit his home page >>

Find an Agency Find a Person HELP

**Indiana Department of Natural Resources DNR**

Forestry > Forestry > Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy

**Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy**

**Purpose of the Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy**

This is a statewide planning effort involving all of Indiana's forest stakeholders, natural resource partners, land stewards and conservationists.

This process has developed a landscape scale assessment and strategy that spans all of Indiana's forest ownerships. Indiana currently has 5.1 million acres of forestland, 85% of which are privately owned. The remaining 15% are under public ownership and include county, city, and state-owned land as well as urban forests.

The Statewide Forest Resource Assessment identifies key forest-related issues and priorities to support development of a long-term Resource Strategy specific to Indiana's forest needs. The assessment identifies landscape areas where national, regional, and state resource issues and priorities converge. It incorporates the best data available, stakeholder input, and other state assessments, plans, and priorities. The assessment is a valuable document for communicating forest-related issues, threats, and opportunities in the State of Indiana. A link to the Statewide Forest Assessment can be found below.

The Statewide Forest Resource Strategy (to be completed, June 2010) builds upon the assessment and include long-term strategies to address threats to forest resources in Indiana. It contains the prioritized strategies and action steps that the Division of Forestry, partners, land stewards and conservationists can implement to reduce forest fragmentation and conversion, conserve soil and water resources, control invasive species spread and maintain biological diversity in Indiana's forests.

- Statewide Forest Assessment (June, 2010)
- Statewide Forest Strategy (June, 2010)
- Stakeholder Coordination
- Planning Approach

For information pertaining to the Statewide Forest Assessment & Strategy, please write to: [stateassessment@dnr.in.gov](mailto:stateassessment@dnr.in.gov)

**Online Services FIRST IN LINE EVERY TIME**

- Sport License Gift Certificates
- Reserved Hunt Registration
- Purchase a Hunting License
- Purchase a Fishing License
- Purchase a Trapping License
- Hunt and Fish License Reprint
- Snowmobile/ATV Registration
- Water Permits
- State Park Permits

More Online Services >> Account Center >>

**Stay Connected**

- RSS Feeds
- Twitter
- Facebook
- Mobile

More >>

**Top FAQs** I Want To...

- How can I get trees to plant on my property?
- Is gold panning allowed on Indiana state forests?
- How many species of trees are native to Indiana?
- What are the current restrictions on transporting firewood in Indiana due to ...
- Who do I contact to get information about a sick tree?

More FAQs >>

Learn how to manage your small woodlots

Learn about the Practice of Forestry in Indiana >>

Looking for a District Forester

# The Process 2010

- **Our Approach: Developing the Assessment & Strategy**
- Assemble and review relevant literature/documents to integrate, build upon, and complement other state natural resource assessments and plans
- Constantly improve [Web site](#) to facilitate stakeholder exchange
- Identify and collect contact information for [stakeholders](#) representing Forestry Groups; Governmental Departments; and Non-Government and Non-Profit Organizations
- [Survey](#) stakeholders (using Survey Monkey)
- Organize [public meetings](#)/stakeholder input sessions (4 meetings in different locations) to refine issues to be addressed in the Assessment
- Conduct GIS overlay analysis reflective of feedback on [Indiana forest issues](#)
- Use the forest issues as a framework to internally draft the Assessment
- Draft Assessment and share with stakeholders for input
- Incorporate stakeholder [review comments](#)
- Survey stakeholders regarding [strategy development](#)
- Organize [public meeting](#) to refine statewide strategy
- Incorporate [stakeholder comments](#) on draft Strategy
- Release [final statewide strategy](#) (June, 2010)

# Forest Stewardship Committee Subcommittee Chairs

- Economic incentives subcommittee (Action Step 1.3)
  - Brian Gandy ([gandybrian@hotmail.com](mailto:gandybrian@hotmail.com))
- Indiana timber check-off subcommittee (Action Step 1.10)
  - Charles Michler ([michler@purdue.edu](mailto:michler@purdue.edu))
- Riparian forests subcommittee (Action Step 2.6)
  - Tim Maloney ([tmaloney@hecweb.org](mailto:tmaloney@hecweb.org))
- BMP expansion subcommittee (Action Steps 3.1 & 3.3)
  - Bill Hoover ([whoover@purdue.edu](mailto:whoover@purdue.edu))
- Land use decision makers subcommittee (Action Step 4.3)
  - Bob Burke ([kingwalnut@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kingwalnut@sbcglobal.net))
- Training and education subcommittee (Action Step 4.8)
  - Robert Woodling ([robertwoodling@netscape.net](mailto:robertwoodling@netscape.net))

## Assessment Stakeholder Survey Results

May 15 - June 1, 2009

### Indiana forest issue

**Fragmentation** and/or conversion of forests to another land use

Conservation and maintenance of **soil and water** resources

The spread and control of **invasive species**

Conservation of **biodiversity**

Counterproductive government forest conservation related policies

Availability of land for public recreation

High cost of forest ownership and low incentives to retain

Conservation of forests that protect drinking water supplies

Overpopulation of white-tailed deer

Inadequate public education about forests

Sustaining Indiana's forest product industry

Lack of active management on forests

Sustainable regeneration of oak woodlands

Inadequate youth education about forests

Lack of healthy woodlands and trees in urban areas, including city parks, street and yard trees

The control of forest fires

The loss of fire dependent plant communities and habitats

Other

Forests not managed for carbon storage

### Relative importance

"First" most important	Selected as 1st, 2nd or 3rd most important
------------------------	--

189

507

199

425

127

421

150

364

75

249

142

234

49

226

51

206

47

194

38

166

49

160

38

146

29

138

18

94

16

90

36

73

13

67

24

61

6

45

# ***2010 Indiana Forest Action Plan***

- ***Conserve, manage and protect existing forests, especially large forest patches***
- ***Restore and connect forests, especially in riparian areas***
- ***Expand Best Management Practices, with special attention to invasive species***
- ***Coordinate education, training, and technical assistance, especially to develop strategic partnerships with land-use decision makers***
- ***Maintain and expand markets for Indiana hardwoods, especially those that are sustainably certified and for local use***



# *Forest Action Plan Impacts*

- Forest Legacy
- Distribution of Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry Budget to Partners
  - FY 2017: \$2,019,896
  - FY 2016: \$1,501,056
  - FY 2015: \$1,517,228
    - Above amounts include: Direct to State, 3rd party and other Forest Service and Federal agencies

# Forest Action Plan Updates

- Required at least every 10 years (may update sooner)
- Minor changes → let S&PF know and provide updated document for posting on [www.forestactionplans.org](http://www.forestactionplans.org)
- Significant changes or full revisions → require NA review and FS S&PF Deputy Chief approval (requirements checklist)

*Per May 2017 memo:*

## **Required by June, 2020\***

- 10-year revision of your FAP
- Revised National Priorities section or report

*\* Unless you already completed a full revision before 2020 (your next revision is due 10-years from your last FAP and National Priorities report is due every 5 years).*

# National Requirements Checklist

## Statewide Forest Resource Assessments and Strategies (State Forest Action Plans) Requirements Checklist for <insert State/equivalent>

State Forest Assessments and Strategies must be updated at least every 10 years and submitted to the relevant USDA Forest Service (FS) Region, Area, or IITF with this checklist signed by the State Forester. Federal review will focus on these requirements as outlined in the [Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act](#) SEC. 2A. [16 U.S.C 2101a] (amended by the 2008 and 2014 Farm Bills).

**Submitted by the State Forester:** Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*State Forester certifies the required elements below are included. FS Region, Area, or IITF fills out the checklist.*

### Statewide Forest Resource Assessment Includes:

- The conditions and trends of forest resources in the state .....Yes  No
- The threats to forest lands and resources in the state consistent with national priorities .....Yes  No
- Areas or regions of the state that are a priority .....Yes  No
- Any multi-state areas that are a regional priority .....Yes  No

### Statewide Forest Resource Strategy Includes:

- Long-term strategies to address threats to forest resources in the state\* .....Yes  No
- Description of resources necessary for state forester to address statewide strategy\* .....Yes  No
- Strategy addresses national priorities for state and private forestry .....Yes  No

*\* Can be presented in a strategies matrix with columns for (a) programs that contribute, (b) resources required, (c) national objective it supports, and (d) performance measure(s) that will be used for each strategy.*

### Stakeholder Groups Coordinated with for the Statewide Assessment and Strategy:

*Note: this can be identified in the body of the documents or in an appendix.*

- State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee (required) .....Yes  No
- State Wildlife Agency (required).....Yes  No
- State Technical Committee (required).....Yes  No
- Lead agency for the Forest Legacy Program (if not the state forestry agency) (required) ..... N/A  Yes  No
- Applicable Federal land management agencies (required).....Yes  No
- Military installations (as appropriate and feasible) .....Yes  No

# National Requirements Continued

## Other Plans Incorporated in the Statewide Assessment and Strategy:

Community wildfire protection plans (required).....Yes  No   
State wildlife action plans (required) .....Yes  No   
Other .....Yes  No

## Forest Legacy Program (FLP) Requirements Included (for States with FLP)..... N/A Yes No

See Forest Legacy Guidelines and the toolkit provided for State Forest Action Plans. Some options include:

- All required Forest Legacy components are integrated into the State Forest Action Plan (Assessment and/or Strategy), including Eligibility Criteria to identify Forest Legacy Areas, delineation of Forest Legacy Areas, and outline of the State's project evaluation and prioritization procedures. These elements are reviewed by the FS Region, Area, or IITF FLP staff as part of the assessment and strategy certification process. It is helpful to provide a crosswalk to identify location of FLP components in the State Forest Action Plan.
- A separate Forest Legacy Assessment of Need document (with above Forest Legacy requirements) is included as an appendix of the State Forest Action Plan. This document has been previously approved by the FS Region, Area, or IITF Forest Legacy Program staff. Documentation of FS approval and most recent review by the State Forest Stewardship Committee review should also be provided.

---

## Review by FS Regional Forester, NA S&PF Director, or IITF Director (as relevant):

Deemed Sufficient (all requirements met)

Comments:

Deemed Not Sufficient (missing one or more requirements)

Corrective Action(s) Necessary to Meet Sufficiency Requirement:

Certified by Regional Forester or NA or IITF Director: Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

## DECISION BY FS DEPUTY CHIEF FOR STATE & PRIVATE FORESTRY:

Approval authority delegated from the USDA Secretary.

Approve:  Disapprove:

USDA FS, Deputy Chief for State & Private Forestry:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

# Forest Legacy Requirements IN the FAP

## Guide to the Forest Legacy Program requirements in the State Forest Action Plan:

This document is intended to serve as a general guide for where examples of each of the required FLP components can be found within the State Forest Action Plan (FAP). Some Forest Legacy Program (FLP) components are general themes that run throughout the document and are more difficult to pinpoint exactly where to locate them.



FLP REQUIREMENT	FAP LOCATION
1. Forest Resources including:	Assessment Document/Chapter
Aesthetic and scenic values	Page 21
Fish and Wildlife Habitat	Page 12
Minerals resource potential	Page 35
Public recreation opportunities	Page 45
Soil Productivity	Page 33
Forest Products and Timber Management Opportunities	Page 16
Watershed values including water quality protection	Page 40
2. (a) Present and <b>future</b> threat of conversion of forest areas to <u>nonforest</u> uses; (b) define conversion threats	Assessment: page 10
3. (a) Historic uses of forest areas, and trends and projected future uses of forest resources	Assessment: pages 3 & 10
4. (a) Current ownership patterns and (b) size of tracts, and trends and projected future ownership patterns	Assessment: pages 4-6
5. Cultural resources that can be effectively protected	Assessment: pages 46-48
6. Outstanding geological features	Assessment: pages 35-36
7. Threatened and endangered species	Assessment: pages 12-15
8. Other Ecological values	Assessment: pages
9. Public recreational opportunities	Assessment: pages 52-55
10. Protected lands in the State, to the extent practical; including Federal, State, and municipal lands and land trust organizations lands	Assessment: page 5

# USFS Review and Approval

- \* USFS review and input on draft(s) (along with other stakeholders)
  1. State Forester completes top of the checklist and submits it along with the FAP.
  2. NA reviews to ensure FAP meets checklist requirements, fills out and signs the checklist.
  3. Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry approves on behalf of the Secretary of USDA.

# Nat. S&PF Priorities & Objectives

## 1. Conserve Working Forest Landscapes

- 1.1. Identify and conserve high priority forest ecosystems and landscapes
- 1.2. Actively and sustainably manage forests

## 2. Protect Forests from Harm

- 2.1. Restore fire-adapted lands and reduce risk of wildfire impacts
- 2.2. Identify, manage, and reduce threats to forest and ecosystem health

## 3. Enhance Public Benefits from Trees and Forests

- 3.1. Protect and enhance water quality and quantity
- 3.2. Improve air quality and conserve energy
- 3.3. Assist communities in planning for and reducing forest health risks
- 3.4. Maintain & enhance the economic benefits & values of trees & forests
- 3.5. Protect, conserve, and enhance wildlife and fish habitat
- 3.6. Connect people to trees and forests, and engage them in environmental stewardship activities
- 3.7. Manage trees and forests to mitigate & adapt to global climate change