Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

## **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

## Clark State Forest Compartment 15 Tract 10 30 Day Comment Period Ending: 7/9/2014 Comments Received: 1

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide. The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

## **Comment Summary:**

- Concerned about BMP implementation and logging impacts on soil erosion and sediment delivery to intermittent stream and Deam Lake.
- Interprets stocking level as sufficient to allow room for stand growth and suggests DoF monitor regeneration for another management cycle.
- Concern that RMG prescribes removal of Virginia Pine to favor native hardwoods- since pine is also native species.
- Concern of potential impact to Indiana Bat and endangered/threatened species. Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG.
- Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity
- Opposes the silvicultural prescription

## **Division of Forestry Response**

- Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber sales contracts.
- Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data are reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. Impact concerns also addressed in the DoF Environmental Assessment.
- As standard practice, the Division of Forestry consults with and utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat
- The management guide notes presence of exotic species in the area and includes treatment recommendations.
- The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles and supported by inventory data and field assessments.
- VP will remain a component of the Forest. The Virginia Pine (VP) prescribed for removal was planted in this area and is in a state of decline.
- The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.