

Draft

Indiana Department of Natural Resources - Division of Forestry

PIKE STATE FOREST
MANAGEMENT PLAN ADDENDUM
COMPARTMENT 12, TRACT 1

December 14, 2012

When the management plan for 1201 was written in 2009, the prescription called for a selective harvest on the northern 82 acres of the tract. However, in the text, the southern approximately 66 acres was excluded from harvest operations with the exception of “pine in this area can be considered for harvesting during the harvest of the northern portion of the tract”. The hardwood areas were excluded due to concerns about exotics as well as the lower volumes in this area. Upon reconning this area I believe the pine should be harvested and allowed to regenerate to native hardwoods. This regeneration will be heavy to yellow poplar and ash but oak, hickory and other species will also be in the mix. I also believe that while the merchantable trees are more scattered, a light thinning is also possible in some of the hardwood areas. Some areas have some decent oak regeneration but it is struggling under a canopy of yellow poplar, overmature ash, blackgum and other species. This is especially true in the Ellis purchase area where it was harvested hard in the 1970's but has never had Timber Stand Improvement work. Some areas of old State Forest are struggling with a poor mix of species and quality of stems with no improvement in sight. Some of these areas may benefit from regeneration openings where new stems could get a start and grow unimpeded. The invasive species in the area will need to factor into the decisions made on the ground, the follow up TSI and future management work.

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