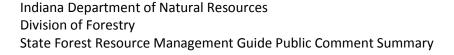
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

## Ferdinand State Forest Compartment 1 Tract 9 Comment Review: 9/26/2018 Comments Received: 3

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

## **Division of Forestry Response Comment Summary** Best management practices will be implemented and Concern on impacts to soil and water resources and effective implementation monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation and monitoring of BMPs. Suggests riparian area buffers or avoidance measures concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included during management operations. in timber sales contracts. DoF will respond to reported BMP Concern of potential impact to Indiana bat and other RTE species that may be departures. BMP guidance can be found at: present. Recommends following USFWS guidance for Indiana bat conservation, or hands off approach. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-Recommends detailed flora and fauna inventory be conducted/included in 2005 Forestry BMP Field Guide.pdf RMG. Detailed flora and fauna inventories are beyond the scope Suggests DoF focus management on interior forest habitats. of tract level management guides. Habitats, communities Commenter would like more details than provided in the guide as it relates to and species are considered as part of the management wildlife assessments and BMPs. planning process. Along with field observations, Natural Concerns about long term forest stainability and harvest levels on State Forests. heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or DRMG should evaluate area potential for High Conservation Value (HCVF) or old endangered species on or near the management unit. No forest designation. HCVF or old growth forests were noted on this tract. Concern on potential impacts to recreation uses as a result of the proposed Implementation of the RMG will utilize guidance from the management activities. US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take Concern on potential spread and introduction of invasive species as result of impacts to the Indiana bat and other listed species. management activity. Supports non-herbicide invasive species control Further information on direct and indirect impacts on measures. species and habitats are found in the Indiana State Forest Suggests DoF evaluate impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Environmental Assessment. Or, put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state on carbon http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fosequestration and climate change. StateForests EA.pdf

Recreation access may be temporarily closed or rerouted



- for safety reasons during operations. Trail considerations will be incorporated into the implementation of the RMG.
- Invasive species presence and control needs will be monitored as part of normal operations. A variety of management measures are considered in an overall integrated pest control strategy, including manual controls, defensive plantings and treatments with approved herbicides.
- Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.
- Indiana State Forests contain approximately 1.15 billion board feet of timber. Managed harvest levels are set at a level to insure long term sustainability. These levels are periodically reviewed as new inventory data is collected.
   See <a href="http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-State">http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-State</a> Forest CFI Report 2010 2014.pdf
- The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles, promotes habitat diversity and supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.