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

## **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

Harrison Crawford State Forest Compartment 27 Tract 2 30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/9/2014 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:**

- Supports the RMGs no harvest at this time prescription.
- Concerned site restoration using prescribed fire has
  potential to adversely impact wildlife species and Blue River
  and karst habitats. Contends prescribed fire not appropriate
  for mesic sites. Suggest fire recommendation be delayed
  and revaluated in 2019.
- Supports some efforts to control invasive species, but not those which include herbicide use. Recommends mechanical control measures for Ailanthus.

## **Division of Forestry Response**

- Harvest prescriptions are based on tract assessments and forest conditions. As noted, no harvest is recommended at this time.
- Tree of Heaven (Ailanthus) is the primary invasive species noted for treatment.
   Mechanical control measures on trees larger than saplings have been shown to be ineffective and actually worsen the problem. Any herbicides used will be targeted and used in accordance with the product label.
- The utilization of a prescribed fire to restore native forest and plant communities, if implemented, will give due considerations to features and resources of the area. Managed prescribed fires have shown to be effective and valuable restoration tool on degraded sites- including mesic sites.
- The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.