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

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Harrison Crawford State Forest

Compartment 24 Tract 6

30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/9/2013 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	Division of Forestry Response
Concerned that management progression does not follow the 2009 Process flow chart.	 Per the Resource Management Process, the flowchart order and timeline are for reference and are approximate. Actual process activities may occur somewhat out of the shown order. Comments received during comment periods are given consideration as part of the overall management process.
 Recommends DoF should publish timber sales in largest newspapers of affected counties. 	The Division of Forestry will advertise timber sales publically through multiple outlets, including newspapers serving the area.
Concerned about soil impacts, erosion and logging on steeper slopes.	 Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion concerns. These guidelines include slope considerations. Invasive species are pre-existing on the site. They will be monitored and
 Concerned about impact of harvest on the spread of invasive species. 	treated where appropriate.
Concerned about need to close horse trail during harvest operations.	• The proposed management will temporarily impact recreational use of the area. During management operations the area will be closed to public access for safety reasons. Closure would likely be 1-4 months in duration.
 Recommends not harvesting at this time letting the trees grow longer and increase in timber value. 	The need and objective for the management is described in the guide.
Objects to early successional habitat reasoning to benefit whitetailed deer.	 Providing diverse wildlife habitats is a State Forest objective. Improving deer habitat is not an objective. However, deer will benefit from the increased browse and cover developed- as will other wildlife species. Hunting will continue to be allowed and will help manage deer populations.