

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 10 Tract 32** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 1/3/2015** **Comments Received: 2**

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.

Comment Summary	Division of Forestry Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern on economics and impacts to recreation, wildlife habitat and climate change. • Proposes tract to grow for another management cycle in order to help stabilize and replenish the depleted soils. • Questions need of prescribed management to achieve desired results. Opposes the use of regeneration openings to manage forests. • Objects to harvest and utilization of Ash trees ahead of Emerald Ash Borer infestations. Concern that removals will eliminate potentially resistant trees and not slow the spread of EAB. • Concern on potential for soil erosion and stream sedimentation and the effective implementation of BMPs • Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats, and potentially to endangered/threatened species. Recommends comprehensive inventory of birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. • Opposes commercial harvesting in this tract. Concern on potential impacts to backcountry areas. • Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity. Cites concern with management of wild grapevine • Concerned that a harvest/leave inventory is not present. • Concern RMG does not address impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Suggests DoF put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While State Forest managed timber sales provide important contributions to the State economy and support many Division of Forestry programs, including recreation, private landowner assistance, conservation education and others, the resource management decisions are guided by science and the principles of forestry and forest sustainability. • 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. DoF will respond to reported BMP departures. BMP guidance can be found at: http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-2005_Forestry_BMP_Field_Guide.pdf • Indiana State Forests contain approximately 1.15 billion board feet of timber. Managed harvest levels on State Forests are set at a level to insure long term sustainability. These levels are periodically reviewed as new inventory data is collected. See http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-State_Forest_CFI_Report_2010_2014.pdf • The management guide provides an overview of wildlife and timber resources. Further information on direct and indirect impacts on species and habitats are found in the Indiana

	<p>State Forest Environmental Assessment. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-StateForests_EA.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invasive species presence, management and control are incorporated in the RMG. Grapevine control measures specifically call for retention of a vine component.• Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.• Where applicable resource management will follow backcountry management guidelines.• The RMG provides a narrative summary of the harvest/leave inventory rather than detailed inventory printouts.• EAB is widespread throughout Indiana, including the counties surrounding the State Forest. http://www.in.gov/dnr/entomolo/5349.htm . Recruiting ash regeneration is an expected and desired outcome of the prescribed treatment. While the prescription will remove many infected Ash trees it will not and is unable to remove all infested Ash trees.• 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
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