

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 1 Tract 12** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 8/18/2013** **Comments Received: 1**

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"> • Opposes prescribed timber harvest, stating State Forests should be preserved from harvests as much as possible. Cites general concerns on impacts to wildlife, erosion, forest ecosystems, and aesthetics. • Concern on impacts to soils, erosion, sedimentation and effective use of BMPs • Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats, and potentially to endangered/threatened species, including Indiana bat. Recommends inventory of birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. • Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity. Would like the DOF to explore alternative methods of invasive control. • Concern on impacts to recreation users (hiking trail). Suggests tracts heavily used for recreation be excluded from the regular harvest cycle. Supports multiple use on public lands. Suggests harvest levels on State Forest be lowered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As standard practice, the Division of Forestry consults with and utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to conserve habitat and avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat. • Habitats, communities and wildlife species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. • 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 State Forest Environmental Assessment. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-StateForests_EA.pdf • State Forest operations adhere to a comprehensive set of forest certification standards (FSC & SFI) to insure long term forest sustainability. Operations are subject to annual 'third party' audits to insure compliance to these standards. www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/7532.htm • 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 • Best management practices will be implemented and monitored

	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. Strictly manual measures are seldom effective control strategies by themselves.• For user safety recreation access will be temporarily limited during management operations. Trail use will be considered during implementation of the RMG.• 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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