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

## **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

Jackson Washington State Forest

Compartment 3 Tract 13

30 Day Comment Period Ending: 1/16/2014 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**

- Concern on potential soil erosion and sedimentation issues and BMP implementation.
   Concern that ROs might be placed on steep slopes.
- Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats and endangered/threatened species.
   Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG.
- Concern that invasive species are not explicitly discussed in the RMG and that management activity may encourage spread of invasive species.
- Concern that road was closed during the comment period and that the comment period should be extended for that reason. Commenter acknowledges closure was for legitimate safety concerns.

## **Division of Forestry Response**

- Best management practices will be implemented and monitored during operations to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber sales contracts.
- The prescribed regeneration openings are not on the tract's steep slope areas, nor are they silvicultural clearcuts as inferred.
- Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data are reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. Also addressed in the DoF Environmental Assessment.
- The RMG uses standard forest science terminology which integrates many considerations including biological, human utility and more. Sometimes the scope of considerations are not readily portrayed by the terminology.
- Area will be monitored for invasive species spread and need for control treatments.
- We acknowledge the road closing inconvenience which required walking to the tract. No similar access concerns were received.