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

SUMMARY COMMENTS

<u>Jackson Washington State Forest</u> <u>Compartment 3 Tract 1</u> <u>30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/8/2014</u> <u>Comments Received: 1</u>

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:

- Prescribed harvest not necessary to achieve desired conditions
- Concerned about potential soil erosion/sedimentation and proper implementation of BMPs.
- Concern that harvest will encourage invasive species growth.
- Opposes use of herbicides to control invasive species present. Recommends manual control.
- Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species. Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG.
- Recommends tract be allowed to grow another management cycle (20 years)

Division of Forestry Response

- Best management practices are prescribed and will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included in timber contracts.
- As standard practice, the Division of Forestry utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat
- Habitats, communities and 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. Concern also addressed in the DoF Environmental Assessment.
- Area will be monitored for invasive species outbreaks and control measures implemented appropriate for the area-including both manual and herbicide control methods.
- The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles and supported by inventory data and field assessments.
- The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.