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

## **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

**Morgan Monroe State Forest** Compartment 18 Tract 4 30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/8/2014 **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:**

- Concerned about steep slopes and potential soil stability/erosion/ sedimentation as result of management operations and the proper implementation of BMPs.
- Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity.
- Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species. Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG.
- Concern DRMG does not contain actual table of legacy and snag trees assessing these wildlife features, nor more detailed timber inventory information to help make informed comments.
- Suggest DRMG not be implemented until this additional information made available for comment.

## **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. Slope and topography concerns will be considered during RMG implementation.
- Invasive species presence will be assessed for control needs
- Implementation of the RMG will utilize 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.
- The management guide provides an overview of wildlife and timber resources rather than the full data and details used for guide development. Timber inventory and wildlife data/assessments are available.
- The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.