

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Martin State Forest **Compartment 3 Tract 3** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 9/10/16** **Comments Received: 2**

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning this 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.

Summary of Comments	Division of Forestry Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern on impacts to soil and water resources and effective implementation and monitoring of BMPs. Suggests riparian areas be buffered or avoided during management activities • Concern of potential impact to Indiana and Northern long eared bat and other RTE species that may be present. Recommends detailed environmental inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be conducted/included in DMG. • Concern of potential impact to interior species, Indiana and Northern long eared bat and other RTE species. Recommends detailed environmental inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be conducted/included in DRMG. • Concern on impacts to soil and water resources and effective implementation and monitoring of BMPs. Suggests riparian areas be avoided or buffered during harvests • 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 on climate change. • Contends the removal of Ash through the prescribed sanitation harvest will not slow the spread of Emerald Ash Borer. Suggests harvest of Ash may reduce ash genetic diversity important to long term survival of the species. • Opposes the harvest prescription within the RMG due to potential impacts to habitat and ecological services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Field observations along with, Natural heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. • 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 • 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 and other Listed bat species. • 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

	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Invasive species presence and control needs are incorporated in the management guide. The species noted are widespread in the County• While the prescription will remove many infected Ash trees it will not slow the spread of EAB which is widespread throughout Indiana. http://www.in.gov/dnr/entomolo/5349.htm Recruiting ash regeneration is an expected and desired outcome of the prescribed treatment. The prescription will not and is unable to remove all Ash trees.• Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.• 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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