

Owen-Putnam State Forest

Property Overview

- 6,674 Acres
- 2 Nature Preserves
 - Section Nine Seep Springs NP – 47 Acres
 - Pleasant Grove NP: 64
- 3 Campgrounds
 - Fish Creek Campground – 14 primitive sites, available water
 - Horse Campground – 15 primitive sites, access to trails
 - Rattlesnake Campground – 11 primitive sites
 - All sites first come, first served.
 - \$13.00/Night @ Self Registration Booths
- 17 Miles of Trails
 - 1.75 Mile Hiking Trail
 - 3.5 Miles of Horse Trails
 - 12 Miles of Horse & Mountain Bike Trails
- Playground – at Fish Creek Campground
- 1 Shelter – Perfect for picnics, lunch, or family reunions.
- Fishing at Fish Creek Pond and Rattlesnake Pond
- 6,500 available acres for hunting – Abide by all hunting rules and regulations , refer to property map for safety zone locations
- 3 accessible trails



Available for Purchase at Owen-Putnam State Forest Office

- Annual Resident Permit - \$50.00
- Golden Hoosier Permit - \$25.00
- Motorized Lake Permit - \$25.00
- Non-Motorized Lake Permit - \$5.00
- Daily Horse Tags - \$5.00
- Annual Horse Tag - \$20.00
- Daily Off-Road Cycling Permit - \$5.00
- Annual Off-Road Cycling Permit - \$20.00
- Firewood Permits - \$10.00/Ricks or 3 Ricks for \$25.00



New Property Manager

Taylor Ardisson

Hi!

My name is Taylor Ardisson. I was recently hired as the property manager for Owen-Putnam State Forest. I graduated Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in Forestry. My career began with the Florida Forest Service. My love of hardwoods and the Midwest brought my wife and I to Indiana. I joined the Division of Forestry as a resource specialist at Jackson-Washington State Forest.

I'm an energetic and thoughtful person. I enjoy being outdoors, spend time with my wife and pets, and playing games.

I am excited about this new opportunity and the increased responsibility. I look forward to improving my knowledge and skills while interacting and serving the public. Owen-Putnam State Forest is a great place, with a lot to offer the citizens of Indiana.

Feel free to stop by the office or call to introduce yourself!



Thank you!

Like many DNR property 2020 presented staffing challenges for Owen Putnam. Several staff within the division were asked to assist and did so without hesitation. This assistance allowed the property to continue moving forward with various projects and achieve many of the property's resource management targets. This includes maintaining campgrounds, cleaning pit toilets, routine summer maintenance (mowing, weed eating, etc.) and other customer service items.

The Owen-Putnam staff would like to thank the staff that made this possible in 2020.



Completed Projects

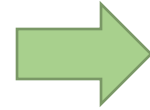
What's New?

- 2 New benches Installed (Fish Creek Pond and playground)
- Replaced several picnic tables
- Risk tree removal throughout campgrounds
- Rattlesnake Pond- vegetation was growing and made access difficult. Some of the vegetation was removed to improve access and protect the dam from root damage, which can lead to leaks.
- Staff continue to maintain clean and inviting campgrounds.
- 2020 brought a 30% increase in recreational revenue compared to 2019!



Horse Trail Maintenance

- The Bridle Loop Horse trail, specifically south of Atkinsonville Road, needed improvements.
- Overtime horseback riders, hikers, and mountain bikers can negatively impact trails, if not maintained. Trails can become eroded and channel water making sections difficult to navigate.
- The before and after photos to the right are of the Bridle Loop Horse Trail where it crosses the county road.



Trails and Water

- The photos to the right show additional sections of the Bridle Loop Trail before DNR staff made improvements.
- Trails in this condition don't allow water to divert or dry properly. Water remains trapped and the area remains wet creating difficult situations for users.



Trail Improvements

- The photos to the show the completed work on sections of the Bridle Loop Trail. A small excavator and bobcat was used to remediate these sections of trail.
- Water diversions (e.g., water bars, dips, turnouts, etc.) divert water off the trails before the water can build enough energy to create erosion. These diversions are spaced and installed based on soil type, slope, and nature features on trails; whether they are recreationally used trails or skid trails that are created during forest management activities.
- Lastly, a stone base was added and capped with fine stone. The stone helps stabilize the trail as well as assist with slowing any water movement on the trail.



Upcoming Projects

Upcoming Recreational Projects

- New signs for campground
- Continue to remove risk trees from the property and campgrounds
- Campsite and campground road maintenance – including new stone.
- Sign maintenance on the property
 - Rehabbing old signs (replacing or repainting)
 - Adding new signs where appropriate
- Continue annual routine maintenance of property equipment and facilities.

Upcoming Facility Maintenance

- Paint forestry office and vehicle building
- Stain and chink property manager's log home residence



Fiscal Year 2019/2020 (July '19 – June '20)

- During this fiscal year, compartment 9 tracts 1 and 3 (120 acres) were sold. \$108,126.00 in revenue.

2020 Calendar Year

- Compartment 9 tracts 1 & 3 sold and harvest complete.
- Compartment 1 tract 2 – harvest complete
- Compartment 8 tract 9 – harvests complete

Fiscal Year 2020/2021 (July '20 – June '21)

- Compartment 1 tract 1 and compartment 8 tract 10 will be marked and sold.

2021 Calendar Year

- Begin marking timber in compartment 8 tract 3 and compartment 2 tract 2, which are tentatively planned to be sold in 2022.
- Continue to conduct post-harvest timber stand improvement, invasive species management and forest inventories.

