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

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Yellowwood State Forest Compartment 10 Tract 19 <u>30 Day Comment Period Ending: 1/22/2014</u> 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	Division of Forestry Response
 Commenter would like more details in the guide as it relates to wildlife and timber inventories and assessments, rather than having to request this supplemental information. Recommends detailed inventory of all plants and animals be included in the RMG. Concern on spread of stilt grass and encourages control efforts Suggests high tract volume (10mbf+) may not be inflated as these high of volumes are not common. Concerned about potential soil erosion and proper implementation of BMPs. Questions silvicultural prescription to achieve desired results of promoting Oak-Hickory regeneration. Concern that prescribed management will not increase long term timber and habitat diversity. Recommends RMG be rewritten 	 The posted 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 known available. The management guide notes presence of exotic species in the area and includes treatment recommendations (including stiltgrass). The high timber volume of the tract reflects the site index and dominance of Yellow Poplar in the tract. Yellow Poplar growth and stocking characteristics often result in high volume woodlands. 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. RMG discusses strategies for Oak and Hickory management. The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles and supported by inventory data and field assessments. Recommendations support timber and habitat diversity. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.