

Clark State Forest **Compartment 3 Tract 8** **Comment Review: 3/29/2018** **Comments Received: 8**

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes proposed timber harvest citing potential impacts to recreation trails, aesthetics, climate and invasive species. Supports setting aside areas to develop naturally as older forests for a variety of aesthetic and ecological benefits. • Supports the DoF state forest management efforts, including management activities prescribed. • Not bothered by the appearance of timber harvests. The impacts are temporary. • Supports rerouting or temporary closure of trails during management activities for user safety • Supports efforts to manage invasive species. Encourages public to also practice invasive species control. • Appreciates the effort the Indiana DOF puts into managing the multiple uses and resources in the forests. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitats, communities and wildlife species are considered as part of the management planning process. 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. • We recognize that aesthetic impacts are inherent of many forest management activities. This may include visual impacts along roadways and a short trail segment in this tract. Potential impacts will be considered during activity planning and execution. • Invasive species presence and control needs will be monitored as part of normal operations. The species noted are widespread in the County. A variety of management measures are considered in an overall integrated pest control strategy, including manual controls, defensive plantings and treatments with approved herbicides. • The Knobstone Trail crosses a small corner of this tract and is expected to be minimally impacted by the prescribed activities. If necessary the section may be temporarily rerouted for user safety. No other recreation trails are affected. • Set aside lands that are trending towards old growth can be found on a variety of DNR lands, including established preserves on State Forests, State Parks, Fish and Wildlife Areas and Nature Preserve lands. These continue to be important conservation strategies, and include the recently established 500+ acre Outbrook Ravine Nature Preserve at Clark State Forest. • The prescribed management activities are supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.