

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 12 Tract 1** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/11/2015** **Comments Received: 2**

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

Comment Summary	Division of Forestry Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opposes prescribed timber harvest, stating State Forests should be preserved from harvests as much as possible. Cites general concerns on impacts to climate change, environmental pollution, wildlife, invasive species, forest ecosystems, and aesthetics. • Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species. Commenter would like more details than provided in the guide as it relates to wildlife and timber inventories and assessments • Concern on impacts to soils, erosion, sedimentation and effective use of BMPs. • Would like comment period to be longer than 30 days. • Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats, and potentially to endangered/threatened species. Recommends comprehensive inventory of birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. Cites concerns about the lack of a legacy tree count. • Concern on potential spread of invasive species as result of management activity. Cites concerns about the control of wild grapevine. • Concerned about the RMG’s plan to remove all American beech from the tract. • Concerned about the utilitarian philosophy and terminology used to describe trees and forest conditions and that full range of values are not considered. • Concern RMG does not address impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Suggests DoF put in place evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The management guide provides an overview of wildlife and timber resources. 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 • Habitats, communities and wildlife 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. Grapevine control measures specifically call for retention of a vine component. • 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 • The 30 day public comment period will remain as standard procedure. However, if individuals have information that is pertinent and specific to the tract they can present that

<p>standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state.</p>	<p>information at any time. (e.g. Cemetery information)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.• Invasive species presence, management and control are incorporated in the RMG.• The RMG uses forest terminology which integrates many considerations including biological, human utility and more. The scope of considerations are not always fully portrayed by the terminology.• Some declining Tulip Poplar and other trees will not be salvaged and have or will be allowed to develop into wildlife snags where not a safety hazard.• While American beech was tallied as harvest stock during inventory assessments, its complete harvest is not proposed. Beech is also one of the tract most abundant regenerating species and will remain a significant stand component.• 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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