

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 1 Tract 15** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 8/18/2013** **Comments Received: 1**

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. Cites general concerns on impacts to wildlife, forest ecosystems, and aesthetics. • Concern on impacts to soils, erosion, sedimentation and effective use of BMPs. Is concerned about the integrity of the drainage. Suggests the use of a buffer zone around the stream. • Recommends inventory of birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. Concerned that generalist species of birds will establish themselves and push out interior forest species. • Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats, and potentially to endangered/threatened species, including Indiana bat and cites USWFS management guidelines. Recommends inventory of birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. • Concurs with some report of conditions within the RMG, but questions need of prescribed management to achieve desired results. • Concern on impacts to recreation, existing trails and aesthetics. Recommends a balance between recreation, habitat and timber management, with less timber emphasis. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Fragmentation concern in this area is agricultural and residential in nature. Prescribed regeneration openings are temporary in nature. HEE research has indicated silvicultural openings such as prescribed are consistently utilized by a broad array of species and add to overall habitat diversity. • 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. • 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 • Implementation of the RMG will utilize guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana and other listed bat species. • For user safety recreation access will be temporarily limited during management operations. Trail use will be considered

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

	<p>during implementation of the RMG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.
--	--