

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 2 Tract 4** **30 Day Comment Period Ending: 8/25/2014** **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 the prescribed managed harvest. Is opposes strategy to harvest nonnative pine for timber to regenerate native hardwoods. Rather, proposes allowing the pines to die overtime and transition to native hardwoods. Also recommends leaving declining White pine and Tulip poplar for habitat benefits. • Concern on impacts to soils, erosion, sedimentation and effective use of BMPs. • Concern on impacts to recreation users (horse trail). Suggests tracts heavily used for recreation be excluded from the regular harvest cycle. • Concern of potential impact to wildlife habitats, and potentially to endangered/threatened species, including bat species. Refers to following the Forest Management Guidelines issued by the US Fish and Wildlife Service Bloomington Field Office. • Recommends detailed inventory of plants, birds and wildlife be conducted before plan implementation. • Concern RMG does not address impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Suggests DoF put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative climate change impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state. 	<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 • As the HCP is developed the 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. • 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. • Fragmentation concern in this area is agricultural and residential in nature. Prescribed regeneration openings are ephemeral 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. • 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 • 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.

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

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For user safety recreation access will be temporarily limited during management operations. Trail use will be considered during implementation of the RMG.• Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.• 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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