

Jackson Washington State Forest **Compartment 7 Tract 2** **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"> • 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. Cites concern about management cycle length. • Commenter would like more details than provided in the guide as it relates to wildlife and timber inventories and assessments. • Concern on potential for soil erosion and stream sedimentation and the effective implementation of BMPs. Cites concerns with soil types present on the tract. • Would like comment period to be longer than 30 days. • Concern RMG does not address impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Suggests DoF put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state. • Concern there is a predominantly utilitarian (tree farm) management philosophy. Cites concerns with the pre and post-harvest stocking levels. • Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species, including Indiana bat. Recommends detailed environmental inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be conducted/included in DMG. Concerned about a lack of legacy tree count. • Discourages measures to control Wild Grapevine due to wildlife benefits • Concern RMG does not address impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. Suggests DoF put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all state and federal forest management projects across the state. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As standard practice, the Division of Forestry consults with and utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to conserve habitat and avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat. • 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 approach encourages a diversity of age classes and successional stages. Grapevine control measures specifically call for retention of a vine component. • 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 • Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation concerns. BMPs will be required of

	<p>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</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.• 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. Some declining and dead trees will be left on the landscape as “Legacy trees”.• Indiana State Forests contain approximately 1.15 billion board feet of timber. Managed harvest levels on State Forests are set at a level to insure long term sustainability. These levels are periodically reviewed as new inventory data is collected. See http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-State_Forest_CFI_Report_2010_2014.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 information at any time. (e.g. Cemetery information)• The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles, promotes
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	<p>habitat diversity and supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.</p>
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