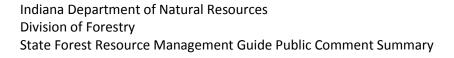
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Forestry
State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

Ferdinand State Forest Compartment 3 Tract 1 Comment Review: 9/26/2018 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.

Division of Forestry Response Comment Summary Concern on impacts to soil and water resources and effective implementation Best management practices will be implemented and and monitoring of BMPs. Suggests riparian area buffers or avoidance measures monitored to address the soil erosion and sedimentation during management operations. concerns. BMPs will be required of operator and included Concern of potential impact to Eastern Box Turtle, Indiana bat and other RTE in timber sales contracts. DoF will respond to reported BMP species that may be present. Recommends following USFWS guidance for departures. BMP guidance can be found at: Indiana bat conservation, or hands off approach. http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fo-Recommends detailed flora and fauna inventory be conducted/included in RMG. 2005 Forestry BMP Field Guide.pdf Suggests DoF focus management on interior forest habitats. Detailed flora and fauna inventories are beyond the scope Commenter would like more details than provided in the guide as it relates to of tract level management guides. Habitats, communities wildlife assessments and BMPs. and species are considered as part of the management Concerns about long term forest stainability and harvest levels on State Forests. planning process. Along with field observations, Natural DRMG should evaluate area potential for High Conservation Value (HCVF) or old heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or forest designation. endangered species on or near the management unit. No Concern on potential spread and introduction of invasive species as result of HCVF or old growth forests were noted on this tract. management activity. Supports non-herbicide invasive species control measures. Further information on direct and indirect impacts on Suggests DoF evaluate impacts on climate change and carbon sequestration. species and habitats are found in the Indiana State Forest Or, put in place evaluation standards to consider the cumulative impacts of all Environmental Assessment. state and federal forest management projects across the state on carbon http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/files/fosequestration and climate change. 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 bat and other listed species.



- Invasive species presence and control needs will be monitored as part of normal operations. A variety of management measures are considered in an overall integrated pest control strategy, including manual controls, defensive plantings and treatments with approved herbicides.
- Assessing climate change and carbon sequestration is beyond the scope of tract level RMGs.
- Indiana State Forests contain approximately 1.15 billion board feet of timber. Managed harvest levels 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 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.