

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROCESS

The resource management process relates to individual tracts of state forestland. The Management Guide for the tract specifies the resource management activities to be applied. The Guide is developed within the context of the property Ten Year Financial Management Plan, Five Year Fish and Wildlife Plan, Resource Management Goals and the Property Section Strategic Plan (1997). Procedures and policies for all resource management activities are in the Division of Forestry Properties Section Resource Management Procedures Manual.

This Resource Management Process and its flowchart are designed for internal use to provide guidance in planning management activities. They are intended to describe the process and an approximate order and timeline of management events. In some cases the order and timeline do not have to be followed exactly. In other cases, one activity cannot occur without a previous activity having occurred first.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Description</u>
Preliminary Reconnaissance	Identification of forest tracts to be inventoried. Tracts are identified on maps and a visual inspection of the tracts is made. Not always done in situations involving prescheduled inventories.
Timber Inventory	Consists of a statistical inventory of the tract utilizing on the ground point samples. Properties are required to inventory a minimum of twice the acreage included in their allowable cut acreage.
Heritage Database Review	Formal review of the Indiana Heritage Database for any animal and plant species of significant concern. Information from this review is included in the Management Guide prepared for the tract. The Division of Nature Preserves maintains the Heritage Database.
Wildlife Review	Tract is reviewed for wildlife resources utilizing a Wildlife Review Checklist developed by the Division of Forestry. Results are included in the Management Guide for the tract. Wildlife biologists from the Division of Fish and Wildlife are available for consultation.
Bat Management Guidelines	Tracts are evaluated for bat habitat in accordance with the Division of Forestry Resource Management Strategy for Indiana Bat. Snag counts are component of the inventory. Results are included in the Management Guide for the tract.
Draft Management Guide	A draft management guide is developed for the tract incorporating all information gathered. This draft may recommend no further management, or it may recommend further management, which may include such items as tree planting, wildlife habitat

	improvement, timber stand improvement, and timber harvesting.
Management Guide	The final Management Guide is prepared after review of all the information contained in the draft guide. It may recommend no further management activities at this time. Duration of the Management Guide is 20 to 30 years.
Sale Layout	If the Management Guide recommends a timber harvest, the resource managers identify on the ground the locations of access roads, log yards and main skid trails. This may include as appropriate the identification of significant riparian areas, visual enhancement areas and cultural resources. At approximately this time, adjacent neighbors are notified of the planned harvest using the Good Neighbor database.
DHPA Clearance	The proposed timber sale area is sent to the Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology for clearance. Frequently, this requires an on the ground archaeological review by a certified archaeologist. Modifications in the sale layout may result from this review.
Boundaries	Resource managers identify the boundaries of the timber sale area. Special consideration is given to exterior boundaries with neighbors.
Roads/Landings/Skid Trails	Access roads, log yards and main skid trails are constructed by Division of Forestry equipment operators.
Pre-Harvest TSI	If the tract requires timber stand improvement prior to the harvest, such as vine control, the activity is performed at this time.
Mark Harvest	Resource managers mark and measure each tree to be included in the harvest.
Pre-Sale Approval	A supervisor inspects the proposed sale for conformance with Division policies and technical competency.
Advertise Sale	The timber sale is publicly advertised in accordance with Division of Forestry policies.
Conduct Sale	The timber sale is conducted at the property in accordance with Division of Forestry policies.
Harvest Evaluations	Resource managers inspect the work of the loggers during the harvesting operations. Deviations from contract requirements are corrected.
Sale Release	When harvesting is completed and all aspects of the timber sale contract are fulfilled, the buyer is released from the timber sale contract.

Post-Harvest BMP Review

The sale is reviewed by Division of Forestry staff for compliance with water quality best management practices. Any deviations are corrected.

Post-Harvest Management

Application of any post-harvest management recommended in the management guide. This may include such activities as timber stand improvement and tree planting.

Post-Management Evaluation

Inspection and evaluation of post-management activities.