

SUMMARY COMMENTS

Clark State Forest Compartment 1 Tract 8 30 Day Comment Period Ending: 10/24/2012 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"> • A public meeting should be held to receive public comments on the management guide • Concerned on impacts to the Knobstone hiking trail and related tourism dollars; • Proposes a 50'+ timber harvest buffer along the Knobstone trail and regulated waterways. • Recommends a harvest be delayed for another cutting cycle to benefit Indiana bat and increase the cost effectiveness of the timber harvest. • Concern on impacts to the Indiana bat and cites the US Fish & Wildlife Service Management Guidelines (to conserve and prevent take of the Indiana bat) • Concern on potential spread and introduction of invasive species as result of the proposed management activity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indiana bat is specifically addressed in the management guide. 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. • 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 water quality concerns. • Invasive species presence will be monitored for treatment needs. • The proposed management will temporarily disrupt recreational use of the area (primarily hunting and foraging), during which time the area will be closed to public access for safety reasons. • The 30 day public comment period will remain as standard procedure. However, if individuals have information that is pertinent and specific to the area they can present that information at any time. The prescribed management activities are supported by inventory data and field assessments. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during plan implementation.