

**Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee (IFSCC)  
Mission Statement & Operating Procedures – adopted 9/22/10**

**Mission Statement**

The Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee exists to bring together and maintain communication among interest groups and individuals concerned with the management of Indiana's forest resources. Bringing together these leaders provides an opportunity to learn the status of their collective efforts to promote forestland conservation and stewardship.

The Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee serves as the leadership body responsible for the implementation of the Indiana Statewide Forest Strategy and ensures meaningful progress on the strategic Action Steps designated in that plan. The Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee informs state forest policy functioning to promote communication and understanding of current forest management issues. The committee promotes the sustainability of forest resources and the improvement of forest management practices in Indiana. Committee activities are designed to enable groups to more effectively plan their program objectives and to work together in achieving them.

Through these efforts, the Indiana Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee seeks sustained improvements in the health, productivity, extent and usefulness of Indiana's forest resources.

**Goals**

Fulfill the Mission of the Committee

Serve as State Forest Stewardship Committee per current and future U.S. Farm Bill

Serve as State Forest Legacy Committee per current and future U.S. Farm Bill

**Operating Procedures**

**Membership** – Open to leaders from all organizations and groups who are interested in the management of Indiana's public and private forestlands. A list of members is maintained by the chair and distributed at meetings.

**Membership Categories** –

*Active* – Members who attend at least 50% of committee meetings.

*Inactive* – Members who do not attend at least 50% of meetings and/or who choose to receive committee correspondence but not be active in committee meetings/business. Inactive members may not vote in committee decision making.

*Chair* - State Forester

**Meeting Schedule** – One time per year (September) or more often if needed with written notice via email at least one month prior to meeting. (Changed from three to one meeting annually --10-2018)

**Decision-Making** – Will be largely via consensus but voting can be used as a tool to for decision making, using a majority of active members (one vote per organization) in attendance at meetings.

**Alternates** - A member may send a substitute with the authority to participate on the member's behalf

**Attendance** – Members or their alternates shall attend at least 50% of scheduled meetings within a calendar year. Poor attendance will change one's member status to inactive.

**Meeting Minutes/Notes** - To be developed by the Chair and posted on Forest Stewardship Committee website maintained by the Division of Forestry.

**Additional Subcommittees** - The committee may establish or disband subcommittees and strategic Action Step leadership to implement the Statewide Forest Strategy or address topics of interest. The committee

will provide guidance and support to Action Step leadership and subcommittees and hear progress reports at regularly scheduled meetings.