

Indiana Forest Stewardship Advisory Council (IFSAC)
Mission Statement & Operating Procedures
Adopted 2/11/2020

Mission Statement

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

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

Goals

- Fulfill the mission of the council
- Serve as State Forest Stewardship Committee per current and future US Farm Bill
- Serve as State Forest Legacy Committee per current and future US Farm Bill
- Serve as one of the Division of Forestry's public input forums for State Forest management goals

Purpose

- Make recommendations for the sustainable management, use and protection of Indiana's forest resources to achieve the state's economic, conservation and social goals to the DNR Director and the Natural Resources Commission.
- Develop and implement the Indiana Forest Action Plan and ensure meaningful progress on the strategic action steps designated in the plan.
- Promote collaborative and cooperative efforts between public and private interests in managing Indiana's forest resources.
- Establish long-term priorities for Indiana's forest resources and industry.
- Identify short-term and long-term threats to Indiana's forest and hardwood industry.
- Address management problems, opportunities and challenges related to public and private forests.
- Allow for the distribution of grant dollars from various federal and state programs to Indiana entities and landowners.
- Provide a forum where members of the council can advise DNR on its forest resource practices for all DNR forested properties.

Operating Procedures

Membership – The committee shall have members from the following organizations:

- 1) Consulting Forester Representative *
Indiana Association of Consulting Foresters
<http://www.indiana-acf.org/>
- 2) Professional Forester Representative
Indiana Society of American Foresters
<http://www.indianasaf.org/>
- 3) Professional Wildlife Biologist
The Wildlife Society, Indiana Chapter
<https://www.intws.org/>
- 4) Private Woodland Owners Association Representative *
Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association
<https://www.ifwoa.org/>
- 5) Private Wildlife Group Representative
Indiana Wildlife Federation
<https://www.indianawildlife.org/>
- 6) Hunting Group Representative
Ruffed Grouse Society
<https://ruffedgrousesociety.org/>
- 7) Horse Riding Group Representative
Indiana Trail Riders Association
<https://intrailriders.org/>
- 8) Urban Forestry Representative
Indiana Arborist Association, [Chapter Executive](#)
<https://indiana-arborist.org/>
- 9) Urban Forestry Representative
DNR Community & Urban Forestry Program Coordinator
<https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/2854.htm>
- 10) Natural Resource Conservation Service Representative *
Indiana NRCS, State Forester
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/in/home/>
- 11) Hiking Group Representative
Hoosier Hikers Council
<https://www.hoosierhikerscouncil.org/>
- 12) Biking Group Representative
Hoosier Mountain Bike Association
<https://www.hmba.org/>
- 13) Conservation Group Representative*
Indiana Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/united-states/indiana/>
- 14) Conservation Group Representative*
Indiana Forest Alliance
<https://indianaforestalliance.org/>
- 15) Conservation Group Representative*

Hoosier Environmental Council

<https://www.hecweb.org/>

- 16) DNR Fish & Wildlife Representative *
Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Fish and Wildlife, Director
<https://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/>
- 17) DNR Outdoor Recreation Representative
Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Outdoor Recreation, Director
<https://www.in.gov/dnr/outdoor/>
- 18) US Forest Service State and Private Forestry Representative
Region 9 Director
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/about-agency/state-private-forestry>
- 19) Farm Service Agency Representative *
Indiana Farm Services Agency, Executive Director
<https://www.fsa.usda.gov/state-offices/Indiana/index>
- 20) Land Grant College Representative *
Purdue Department of Forestry & Natural Resource, Head
<https://ag.purdue.edu/fnr/Pages/default.aspx>
- 21) Federal Forest Service Representative *
Hoosier National Forest, Supervisor
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/hoosier>
- 22) Forest Industry Representative *
Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association, Inc.
<https://www.ihla.org/>
- 23) Indiana State Soil & Water Conservation Representative
Indiana Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Executive Director
www.iaswcd.org
- 24) Indiana State Department of Agriculture Representative
Indiana State Department of Agriculture, Hardwoods Program Manager
<https://www.in.gov/isda/hardwoods.htm>
- 25) Indiana Farm Bureau Representative
Indiana Farm Bureau, Director of Public Policy
<https://www.infarmbureau.org/>
- 26) Indiana Land Trust Representative
Indiana Land Protection Alliance, Director
<https://www.landtrustalliance.org/>
- 27) DNR State Forester
Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, Director
<https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/>
- 28) Indiana Invasive Species Council Representative
Council Chairperson
<https://www.entm.purdue.edu/iisc/index.html#council>
- 29) DNR Division of Nature Preserves
Indiana DNR, Division of Nature Preserves, Director
- 30) DNR State Entomologist
Indiana DNR, Division of Entomology & Plant Pathology, Director
<https://www.in.gov/dnr/entomolo/>

31) Independent Private Forest Landowner Representative
Tom Hougham

* These organizations/representatives are required by federal law to be part of the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee

Membership Categories –

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

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

Chair - State Forester

Meeting Schedule – Two times per year (March and September) or more often if needed with written notice via email at least one month prior to meetings.

Decision-Making – will be largely via consensus but voting can be used as a tool 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 IFSAC website maintained by the Division of Forestry.

Additional Subcommittees - The council 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.