

**Resource Management Guides
Martin State Forest
30-day Public Comment Period (September 10, 2025 – October 9, 2025)**

The Indiana State Forest system consists of approximately 160,251 acres of primarily forested land distributed across the state. These lands are managed under the principle that we're stewards of this land for the future. This work is guided through legislation and comprehensive scientific national and international forest certification standards which are independently audited to help insure long-term forest health, resiliency, and sustainability.

Resource management guides (RMGs) are developed to provide long-term, scientific forest management planning tailored to each forest compartment (300-1,000 acres in size) and tract (10 - 300 acres in size). There are 1,590 tracts across the state forest system statewide. Annually, 50-100 tracts are reviewed, and these guides are developed based on current assessments. Through science-based management practices, we prescribe management actions on select tracts every 15-25 year, diversifying the forested landscape and sustaining ecosystems.

The RMG listed below and contained in this document is for storm salvage management at Martin State Forest.

Martin State Forest Storm Salvage Management, Comp 4, Tracts 6 & 7

To submit a comment on this document, go to:

<https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/state-forest-management/public-comment/submit/>

You must indicate the State Forest Name, Compartment number and Tract number in the "subject or file reference" line to ensure that your comment receives appropriate consideration. Comments received within 30 days of posting will be considered and review posted at:

<https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/state-forest-management/public-comment/>

Note: Some graphics may distort due to compression.

Martin State Forest
Storm Salvage Management

Martin State Forest
Forester: Olivia Rothgerber

Compartment: 4
Date: 8/25/2025

Tract: 6 & 7
Acres: 66

Location

Tracts 6 and 7, also referred to as 6360406 and 6360407, respectively, are in Section 9 & 16, Township 3N Range 3W in Martin County, Indiana.

General Description

During a severe storm event on June 18, 2025, an area of Martin State Forest was damaged by high wind speeds. Many trees were damaged, uprooted, or snapped in half. Following a field reconnaissance of the affected area, it was determined enough damage was sustained to warrant a salvage harvest.

The storm damaged approximately 66 acres mainly within portions of the following tracts:

Compartment 4 Tract 6 – 46 acres of the 100-acre tract
Compartment 4 Tract 7 – 20 acres of the 131-acre tract

History

Forest management activities (i.e., timber harvests) have occurred on these tracts.

Landscape Context

The surrounding landscape is predominantly forested, with scattered private residences to the west along Chicken Farm Road.

Topography, Geology and Hydrology

The salvage area is comprised of gentle to moderate slopes. The aspects are mainly eastern and western facing, with northern and southern facing slopes also present. There is one mapped intermittent stream in the salvage area. The 2022 Best Management Practices (BMP) field guide will be used to minimize negative impacts to soil and water quality.

Soils

The following soils can be found in the salvage area:

Wellston-Tipsaw-Adyeville complex (WpfG) - This moderately sloping to very steep, deep, well drained complex is found on side slopes in the uplands. Slopes can range from 18-70%. It is well suited to trees. Wellston has a site index of 81 for northern red oak and 90 for yellow poplar, Tipsaw has a site index of 70 for black and northern red oak, and Adyeville has a site index of 64 for white oak.

Wellston silt loam (WhfC2) - This moderately sloping, well drained soil is on narrow ridgetops and on side slopes of the uplands. Slopes range from 6-12%. It is well suited to trees. This soil has a site index of 71 for northern red oak and 90 for yellow poplar.

Apalona-Zanesville silt loam (AgrC2) - This moderately sloping, deep, moderately well drained soil is found on sideslopes in the uplands. Slopes range from 6-12% It is well suited to trees. A fragipan is present at 20 to 40 inches below soil surface that restricts drainage. Erosion hazards are a concern but can be mitigated by implementation of Best Management Practices for Water Quality. This soil has a site index of 60 for white and black oak.

Access

The northern edge of the salvage area is easily accessible off Chicken Farm Road. From US 50 in Shoals, head northeast onto Main Street for about a mile. Continue onto Chicken Farm Road. In three miles, fire lane 12 will be on your right. Following fire lane 12 for 0.4 miles, the northern edge of the salvage area can be accessed. The eastern end of fire lane 12 is accessible via Williams Road, also known as Couty Road 93. From the intersection of Williams Road and fire lane 12, the salvage area can be accessed by following fire lane 12 west for two miles. Internal access is good, with pre-existing skid trails and moderate to gentle slopes.

Boundary

Some tracts are bound by other state forest tracts and others private property. Only portions of the tract damaged by the storm are part of the salvage harvest. Not all areas within the tract boundary will be impacted by the salvage timber harvest.

Ecological Considerations

A formal Ecological Review process, which includes a search of Indiana's Natural Heritage Database, is part of the management planning process. If Rare, Threatened or Endangered species or communities were found to be associated with this area, the activities prescribed in this guide will be conducted in a manner that will not threaten population viability of those species or communities.

Recreation

The Mountain Bike Trail runs through a portion of the salvage area and fire lane 12 is utilized as a disabled hunters trail. For public safety, portions of these trails would be closed or re-routed temporarily, then reopened following the completion of the salvage.

Cultural

Cultural resources may be present, but their location(s) is protected. Adverse impacts to significant cultural resources will be avoided during any activities.

Description and Silvicultural prescription

An estimated 204,801 board feet (BDFT) was marked for salvage removal. The following is a volume breakdown by tract:

Compartment 4 Tract 6 – 153,020 BDFT

Compartment 4 Tract 7 – 51,781 BDFT

A salvage harvest targets damaged and/or uprooted trees. Like practices such as group selection or patch cuts, pockets of damaged trees will be removed. Early successional habitat will fill in the gaps left behind, creating a beneficial patchwork of both mature and young forest habitat for wildlife. Like the practice of single-tree selection, some individually damaged and/or uprooted

trees were marked in the areas between larger pockets of damage. Additionally, this harvest will target a pine planting affected by the storm. This pine planting suffered extensive damage from the storm, and the remaining trees consist of nonnative pine species currently in a state of decline. These plantings were done by the Civilian Conservation Corps to control erosion and have successfully completed their job of stabilizing the soil. Some portions of the pine planting will be removed to allow native hardwood forests to be reestablished in the area.

Following the salvage harvest, timber stand improvement (TSI) will be administered. The target of TSI will be the completion of any openings created by the salvage harvest. Other areas within the tracts will receive TSI as needed.

The following table represents the total marked trees for salvage removal:

Species	# Trees	# Poles	# Culls	Volume (BDFT)	Cords
Black Oak	136	0	2	60,033	0
White Oak	86	0	2	32,225	0
Eastern White Pine	125	0	2	28,271	0
Northern Red Oak	61	0	0	22,730	0
Yellow Poplar	78	0	3	17,300	0
Red Pine	300	0	6	15,034	0
Pignut Hickory	65	0	6	14,031	0
Sugar Maple	56	0	4	3,735	0
Shagbark Hickory	15	0	1	3,716	0
Virginia Pine	34	0	1	3,108	0
Bitternut Hickory	6	0	0	1,415	0
Red Maple	27	0	5	1,084	0
American Beech	12	0	3	964	0
Blackgum	10	0	2	454	0
Scarlet Oak	1	0	0	305	0
Black Walnut	3	0	3	303	0
Persimmon	1	0	0	32	0
Black Cherry	1	0	0	23	0
American Sycamore	1	0	0	23	0
Sassafras	1	0	0	15	0
Totals	1,019	0	40	204,801	0

Proposed Activities Listings*Proposed Management Activity**Proposed Date*

Salvage sale marked

2025

Salvage sale sold

2025

Salvage harvest

2025-2026

Post harvest TSI and invasive work

2027

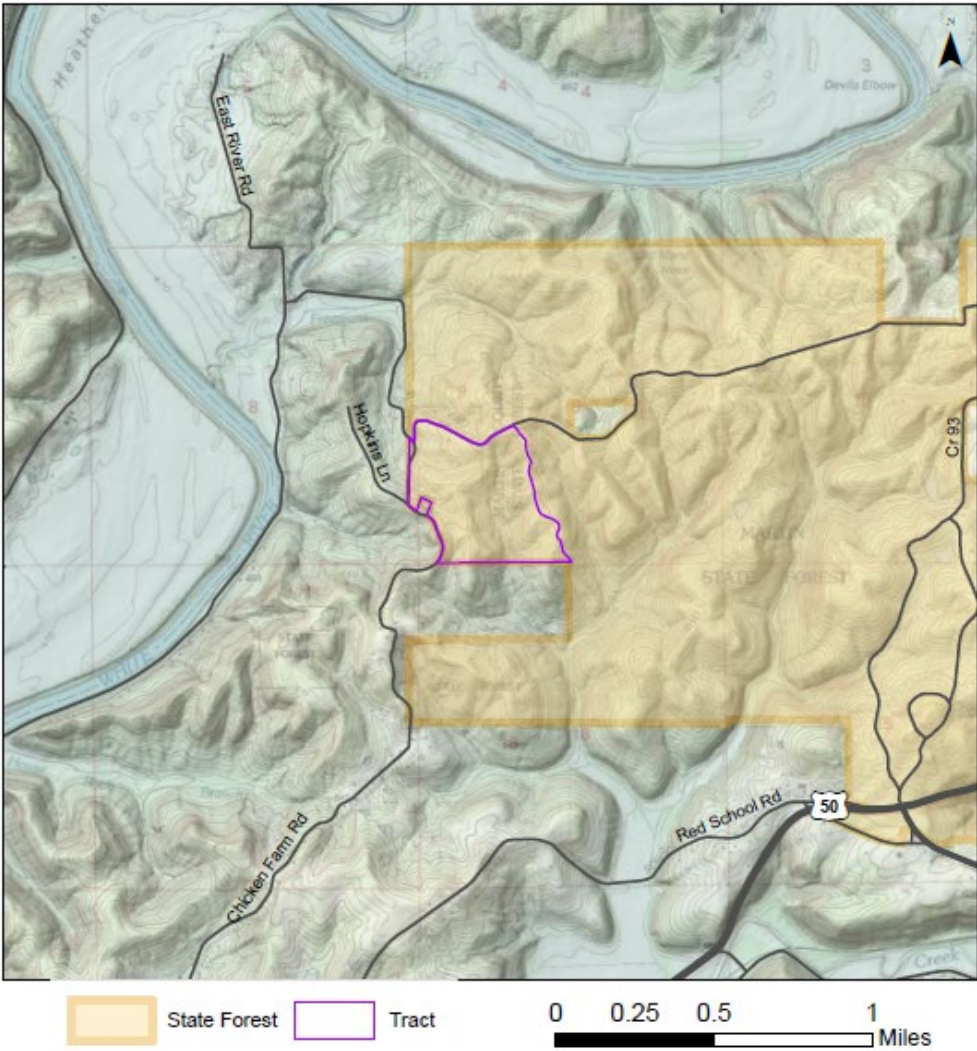
3-year Regeneration opening review

Three years after salvage

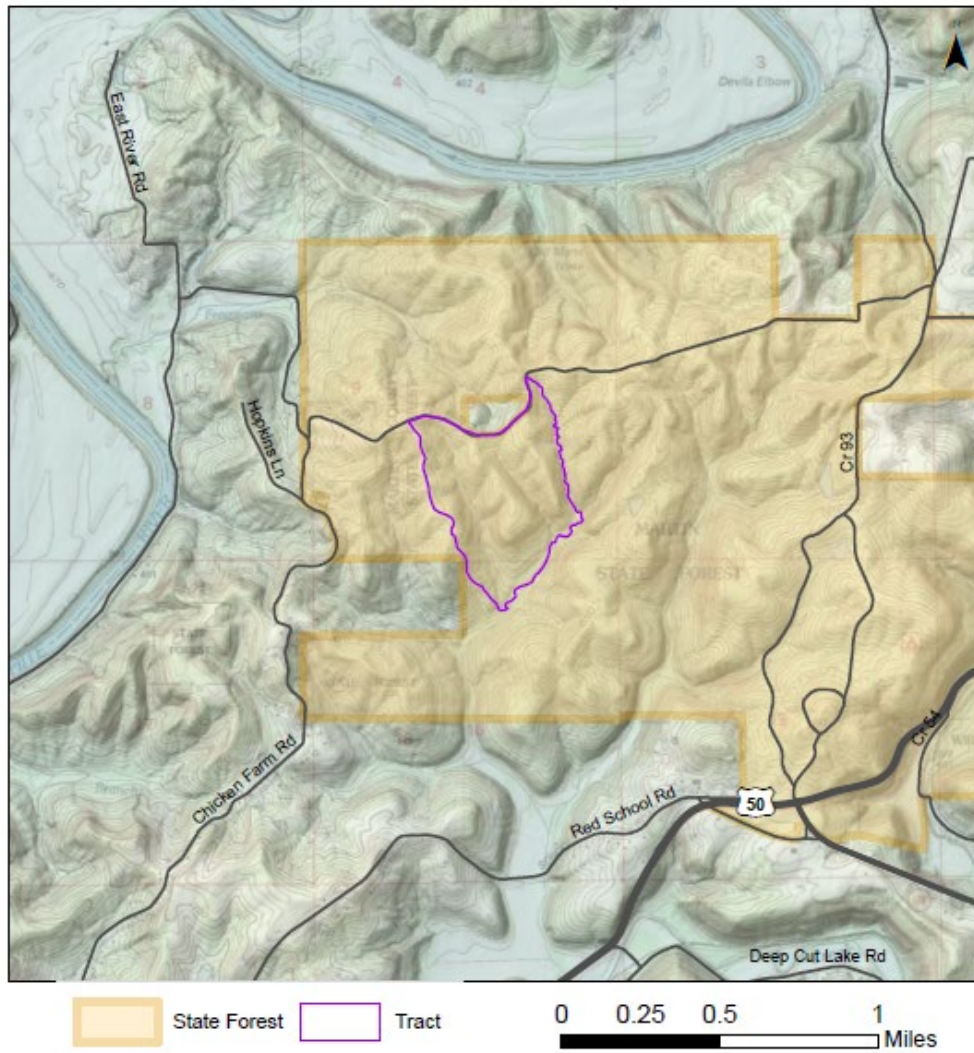
Next forest inventory

2041-2045

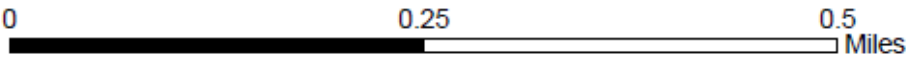
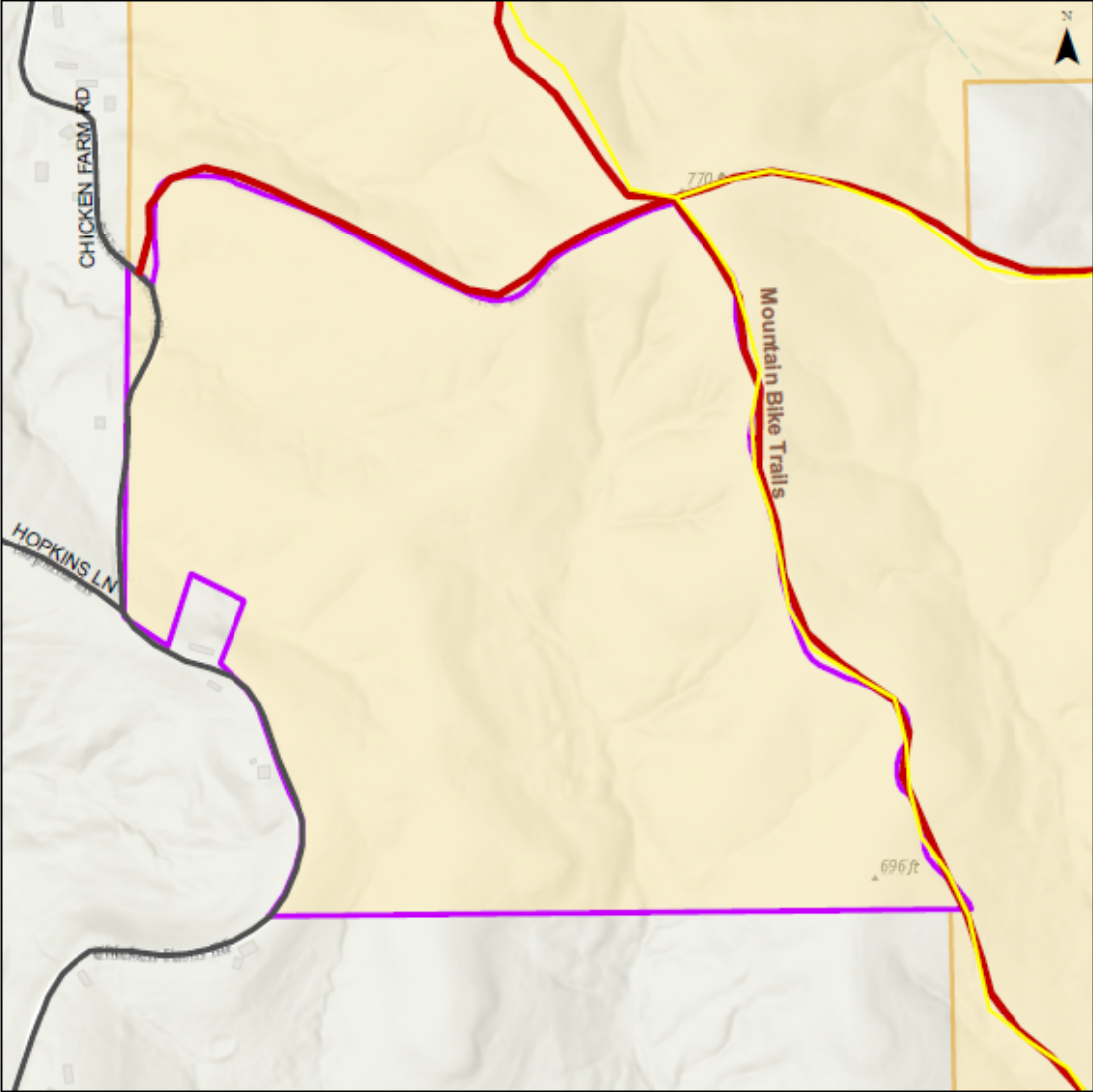
Martin State Forest
Location Map
Compartment 4 Tract 6



Martin State Forest
Location Map
Compartment 4 Tract 7

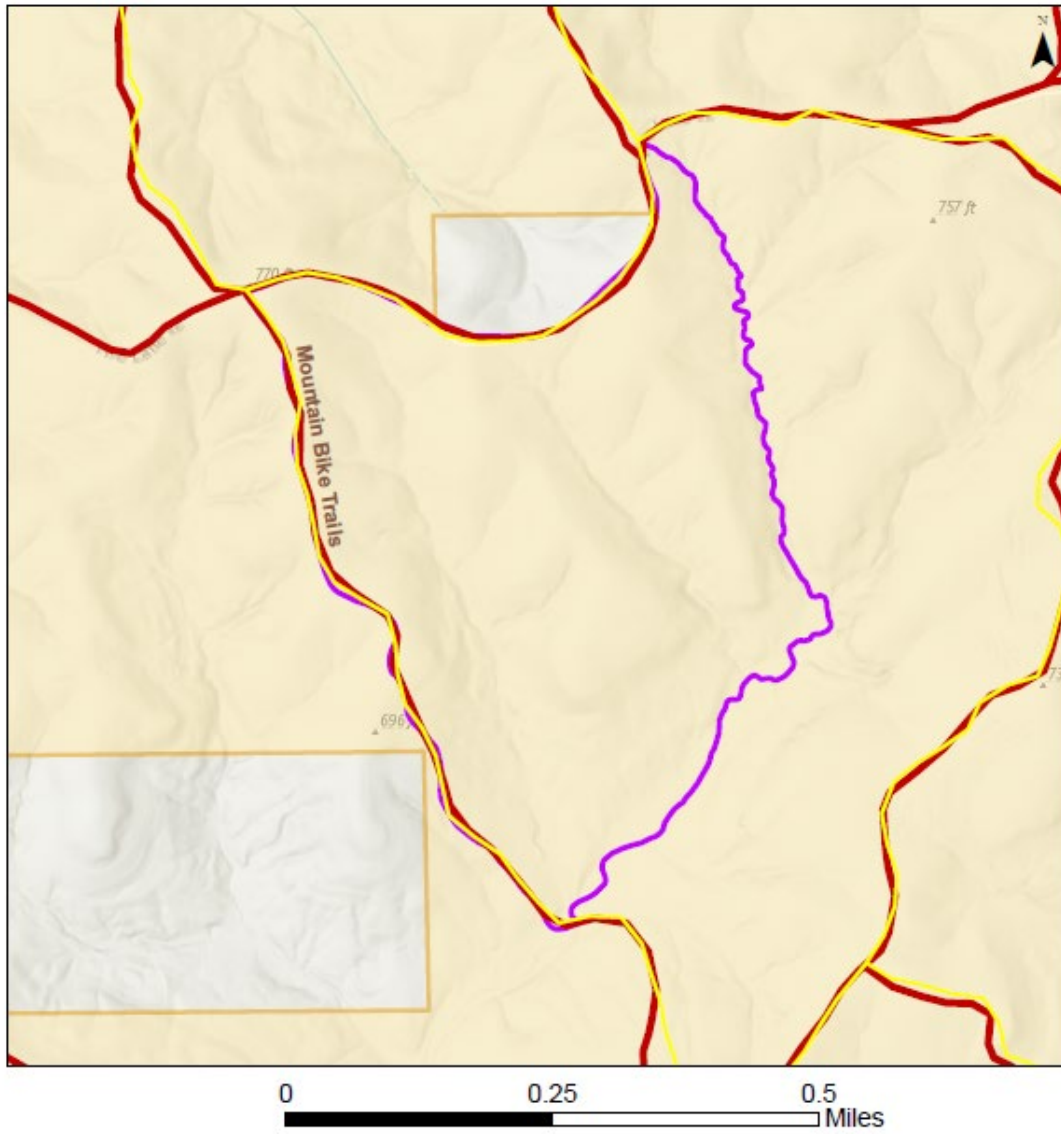


Martin State Forest
Compartment 4 Tract 6
Tract Map



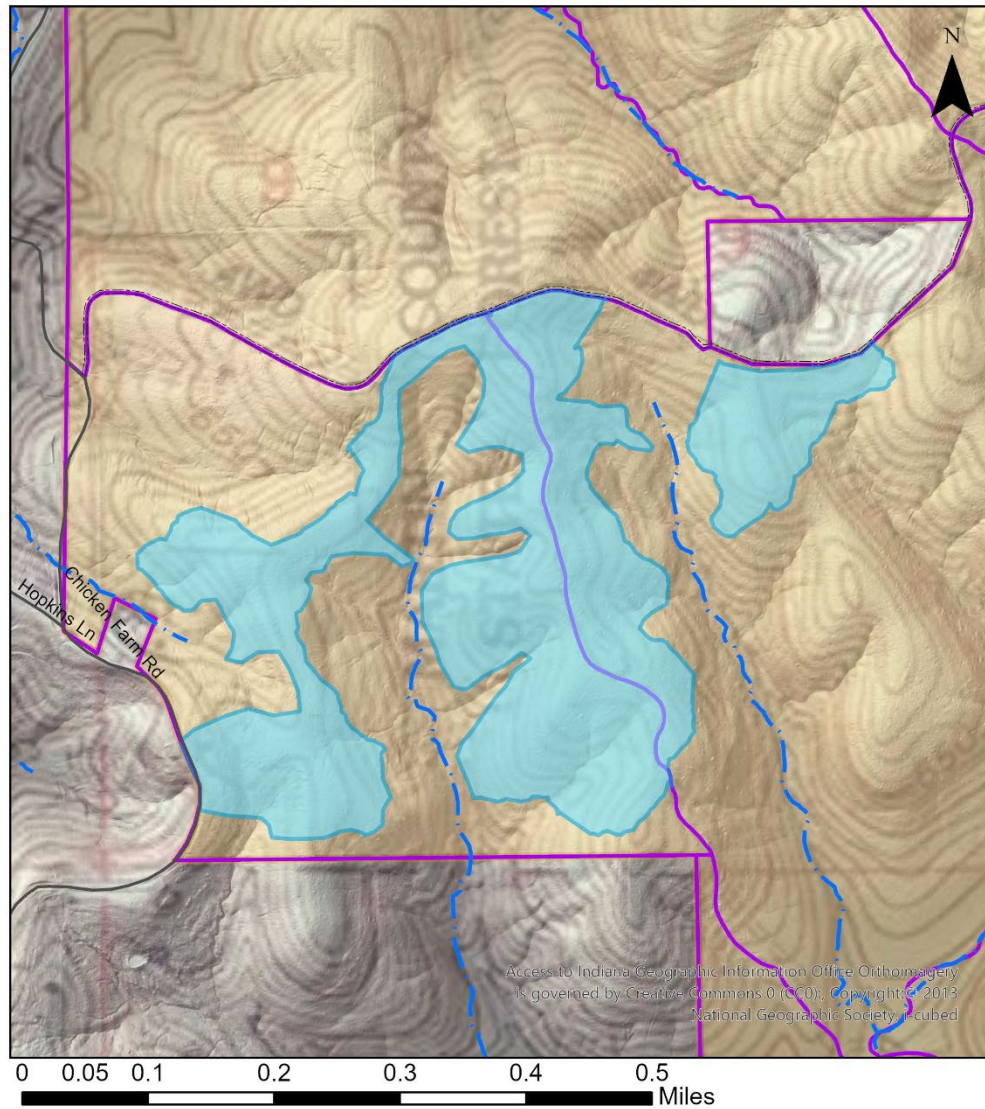
- Recreation Trail
- Fire Lane
- Tract boundary
- State Forest

Martin State Forest Compartment 4 Tract 7 Tract Map



- Recreation Trail
- Fire Lane
- Tract boundary
- State Forest

Martin State Forest
Compartment 4 Tracts 6, 7
Salvage Harvest Area



Legend

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| == Haul Road | Salvage Area |
| — County Road | Tract Boundary |
| - - - Mapped Streams | State Forest |