

**SUMMARY COMMENTS**

**Yellowwood State Forest    Compartment 10 Tract 13    30 Day Comment Period Ending: 6/7/2013    Comments Received: 1**

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide. The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

	<b>Division of Forestry Response</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opposed to harvesting in backcountry areas</li> <li>• Concerned that management progression does not follow the 2009 Process flow chart.</li> <li>• Recommends DoF should publish timber sales in largest newspapers of affected counties.</li> <li>• Concerned about soil erosion.</li> <li>• Concerned about invasive species spread following harvest and naturalization of multi floral rose.</li> <li>• Concerned about trail closures affecting recreation opportunities especially the Tecumseh Trail</li> <li>• Concern about harvest impacts to Indiana bat.</li> <li>• Tract is rugged terrain and should be allowed to mature until the next management cycle.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This tract is not in the backcountry area</li> <li>• Per the Resource Management Process, the flowchart order and timeline are for reference and are approximate. Actual process activities may occur somewhat out of the shown order. Comments received during comment periods are given consideration as part of the overall management process.</li> <li>• The Division of Forestry will advertise timber sales publically through multiple outlets, including newspapers serving the area.</li> <li>• Best management practices will be implemented and monitored to address erosion concerns.</li> <li>• The management guide prescribes treatment of invasive species. The naturalization statement is not resignation, just pragmatism regarding a plant that was widely promoted and planted for much of the 1900’s, especially in the old fields of southern Indiana, and is prolific producing hundreds of thousands of seed every year that are spread by birds and that can persist in the seed bank for decades.</li> <li>• The proposed management will temporarily impact recreational use of the area, during which the area and trails will be closed to public access for safety reasons. Closure would likely be 1-4 months in duration. Where practicable, alternate trail routes will be identified.</li> <li>• The Division of Forestry will utilize guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat.</li> <li>• The terrain of this tract is relatively common in Brown County. The prescribed management considers forest maturity.</li> </ul>