



File Code: 1940
Date: December 6, 2017

Dear Interested Party:

The Hoosier National Forest completed the monitoring program transition for our Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) required by the 2012 Planning Rule (36 CFR §219.12(c)(1)) in May 2016. The transition ensures our monitoring program addresses each of the eight required resource monitoring elements provided in the Planning Rule in a way that is scientifically credible and that will help us improve the management of resources on the Forest. The Monitoring Plan (Chapter 4 of the Forest Plan) was updated as part of the transition process to reflect the specific questions, indicators, and measurements selected for each element.

When we updated our Monitoring Plan, we changed from summarizing recent monitoring in an annual monitoring evaluation report to doing so biennially. The 2012 Planning Rule requires National Forests to issue written biennial monitoring evaluation reports no later than two years from the date the transition is completed, but may be postponed for one year (36 CFR §219.12(d)(1)(iii)).

The first Hoosier National Forest biennial monitoring evaluation report was scheduled to be available by January 2018. Due to vacancies in our staff and other management priorities, the report will be postponed and will be completed later in 2018.

If you are interested in learning more about the Hoosier National Forest Monitoring Program, please contact Chad Menke at 812-276-4768 (phone) or cmenke@fs.fed.us (email).

Thank you for your interest in the management of the Hoosier National Forest.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL CHAVEAS
Forest Supervisor

