

2013 Payments to Counties Hoosier National Forest

An average of \$2.32/acre (range of \$1.84 - \$2.94) was paid to counties with National Forest land. Of this, and average of \$1.24/acre was from the Secure Rural School Payments, and \$1.08/acre was from Payment in Lieu of Taxes funds.

On October 2, 2013 Congress passed a one year reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act as part of HR 527 Helium Stewardship Act. The funds are distributed to counties based on NF acreage within the county. The money is given as Title I funds which must be used for roads and schools. However 20 percent may be designated as Title II or Title III funds – no Indiana Counties chose to do this. Title II funds must be used for resource management activities, and Title III funds should be used for reimbursement for emergency services on federal lands, community wildfire protection plans, etc.

Congress also authorizes Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) monies to compensate county governments for private property taxes forgone due to public ownership. PILT amounts vary based on the amount of national forest monies paid in the previous year and congressional appropriations. PILT payments are made to the counties based on entitlement acres within the county (entitlement acres exclude tax exempt lands the national forest has acquired from state or local governments).

County	Actual Acres*	Entitlement Acres for PILT \$	PILT	Title I	Total	Average Paid/Acre
Brown	18,116	18,006	\$30,159	\$15,647	\$45,806	2.52
Crawford	24,286	22,068	20,622	37,338	57,960	2.38
Dubois	427	412	979	262	1,241	2.90
Jackson	22,844	22,366	28,100	24,164	52,264	2.28
Lawrence	16,229	13,582	10,117	20,347	30,464	1.87
Martin	9,696	7,705	7,317	10,608	17,925	1.84
Monroe	18,811	18,513	31,846	23,575	55,421	2.94
Orange	32,444	26,962	35,987	41,249	77,236	2.38
Perry	60,195	57,550	53,357	79,049	132,406	2.19
TOTAL	203,048	187,164	\$218,484	\$252,237	\$470,723	2.32

*In 2014 the USDA Forest Service converted to a system of computing acres electronically which may not always match deed acres. Acres may not match past totals.