

FY 2009 Hoosier National Forest Monitoring Work Plan

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FY 2009 Monitoring Work Plan

Introduction

The *Forest Plan* requires a monitoring plan be prepared annually. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 monitoring plan has been developed. The plan was developed with guidance from the Regional Office and review of the monitoring questions and guidance in Forest Plan Chapter 4 (USDA FS 2006) by the Forest Planner, NEPA coordinator, and Monitoring coordinator. The review accounted for monitoring capability based on FY 2009 budget expectations.

The items to be monitored in FY 2009 are identified in this document along with employee or position responsible for reporting the results in the FY 2009 Monitoring and Evaluation Report.

The fourteen questions respond to 5 of the 7 goals listed in the USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan FY 2007-12 (USDA FS 2007). They also respond to two of Region 9's Courageous Conservation goals (USDA FS 2005) and all eight of the Hoosier Forest Plan goals (USDA FS 2006).

Literature Cited

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2005. Strategic framework for the Eastern Region. Eastern Region. 26 p.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2006. Land and resource management plan--Hoosier National Forest. Eastern Region, Hoosier National Forest. 85 p. + appendices.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. 2007. USDA Forest Service strategic plan FY 2007-12. Washington, D.C. FS-880. 32 p.

No.	Monitoring Question	Method	Responsible position or person	FS Strategic Plan Goals	Region 9 Courageous Conservation	Forest Plan Goals
1	Is this Forest complying with guidance outlined in Forest Plan?	Monitoring reports from on-going projects	Forest Planner and Forest personnel	1, 5	1	1-8
2	Are insect and disease population levels compatible with objectives for restoring or maintaining healthy forest conditions?	Insect monitoring reports	Tom Thake, Chris Thornton, IDNR, and State & Private Forestry	1	1	2
3	What level of prescribed fire should be used to maintain desired fuel levels or mimic natural processes, maintain and improve vegetative conditions, or restore natural processes and functions to ecosystems?	Mogan Ridge prescribed burn pre- and post-burn report; and vegetation data.	Mike Davis, Zach Rigg, Chris Thornton, RxFuel specialist	1	1	2
4	Have there been changes in cave environments?	Cave monitoring plan	Steve Harriss, and IKC	1	1	1, 2, 3
5	To what extent is Forest management contributing or responding to populations of terrestrial or aquatic non-native invasive species that threaten native ecosystems?	Monitoring of German Ridge, Oriole Restoration, and Barrens Invasive Species projects	Forest staff	1	1	1, 2
6	To what extent is Forest management affecting water quality, quantity, flow timing, and the physical features of aquatic, riparian, or wetland ecosystems?	Stream monitoring near projects.	Amanda Kunzmann and Zach Rigg	1	1	2, 3
7	Have the soil and water mitigation and protection measures been effective as applied to all management activities?	Timber sale and prescribed burn monitoring reports	Timber staff, Amanda Kunzmann and Zach Rigg	1	1	2, 3
8	Consideration of establishment of physical facilities, use regulations, and recreation opportunities responsive to current and anticipated user demands.	Facilities Management Plan update and Trails Plan implementation	Recreation staff	1, 4, 5	1	6, 7
9	Is trail use planned and implemented to protect land and other resources, promote public	Soil and water monitoring plan: Trails 2008	Zach Rigg and Rec staff	1, 4, 5	1	6

	safety, and minimize conflicts, with other users of the NFS lands?	Complaints addressed and tickets issued				
10	Are timber sales meeting Forest Plan ASQ?	Annual sale report.	Chris Thornton and Todd Dempsey	2	1	8
11	Are mitigation and protection measures correctly applied for ground disturbing activities?	Annual heritage report	Angie Krieger	1	1	1, 2, 3
12	Are heritage resources being damaged by vandalism?	Annual heritage report	Angie Krieger	1	1	4
13	How do actual costs of carrying out planned management compare to cost estimates?	Budget analysis	Pat McClellan		4	8
14	Does the Forest's land adjustment program support and enhance the Plan's desired conditions and goals and contribute to efficient and effective stewardship?	Annual land status report	Kelly Weigel	1, 3, 4, 5	1	6, 7, 8

FS Strategic Plan Goals

- 1 Restore, sustain, and enhance the Nation's forests and grasslands
- 2 Provide and sustain benefits to the American people
- 3 Conserve open space
- 4 Sustain and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities
- 5 Maintain basic management capabilities of the Forest Service
- 6 Engage urban America with Forest Service Programs
- 7 Provide science-based applications and tools for sustainable natural resources management

Region 9 Courageous Conservation

- 1 Protect ecosystems across boundaries
- 2 Connect citizens to the land
- 3 Walk the talk for sustainability
- 4 Revolutionize effectiveness and efficiency
- 5 Be an employer of choice

Hoosier National Forest Plan Goals

- 1 Conservation of threatened and endangered species habitat
- 2 Maintain and restore sustainable ecosystems
- 3 Maintain and restore watershed health
- 4 Protect our cultural heritage
- 5 Provide for visually pleasing landscape
- 6 Provide for recreation use in harmony with natural communities
- 7 Provide a usable landbase
- 8 Provide for human and community development