

Published in the Hoosier Times (The Herald-Times and Times-Mail), July 27, 2019

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT
Houston South Vegetation Management and Restoration Project
Hoosier National Forest
Brownstown Ranger District

The Hoosier National Forest, Brownstown Ranger District has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment for the Houston South Vegetation Management and Restoration Project. The project is located in the Pleasant Run area of the Brownstown Ranger District in Jackson and Lawrence Counties, Indiana.

The Houston South Vegetation Management and Restoration Project proposes to treat vegetation and conduct related management activities to improve forest health and increase the sustainability of oak-hickory ecosystems, while also improving wildlife habitat.

A detailed proposed action description, project information, and project maps are available for review at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=55119>. These are also available upon request from the Hoosier National Forest Supervisor's Office at 811 Constitution Avenue, Bedford, IN 47421. Additional information regarding this action can be obtained from: Kevin Amick at 812-276-4746, kamick@fs.fed.us, 811 Constitution Avenue, Bedford, IN 47421,

How to Comment and Timeframe

This proposal is subject to the pre-decisional administrative review process, also known as the objection process (36 CFR 218). Specific written comments (36 CFR 218.2) on the proposed activity will be accepted for 30 calendar days following publication of this legal notice in the *Hoosier Times* (Bloomington *Herald-Times* and Bedford *Times-Mail*). The publication date in the newspaper of record is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period. The regulations prohibit extending the length of the comment period.

Submit written comments to the Responsible Official who is Michelle Paduani, District Ranger, by one of the following methods: mail: 811 Constitution Avenue, Bedford, IN 47421, telephone: 812-275-5987, facsimile: 812-279-3423, or email: comments-eastern-hoosier@fs.fed.us with Subject: Houston South Vegetation Management and Restoration Project. Acceptable formats for electronic comments are text (.txt), Word (.doc or .docx), portable document format (.pdf), or rich text format (.rtf). Office hours for those who wish to hand deliver their comments, are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday (except Federal holidays).

It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period. Only those individuals or entities who submit timely and specific written comments during a public comment period are eligible to file an objection (36 CFR 218.5). For objection eligibility, each individual or representative from each entity submitting timely and specific written comments must either sign the comment or verify identity upon request. Individuals and organizations wishing to be eligible to object must meet the information requirements in CFR 36 218.25(a)(3). Names and contact information submitted with comments will become part of the public record and will be available for public inspection.