

Harrison-Crawford State Forest



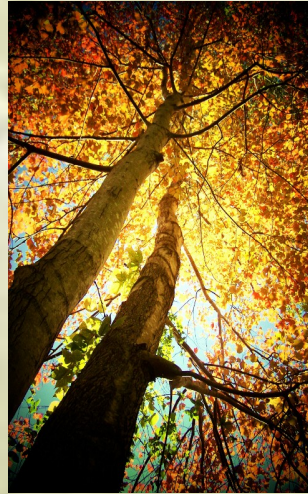
S t a t e o f I n d i a n a

Open Door Day

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It is that time of year, again, when we invite the public to come out for a special visit. This year, the date is Wednesday, September 21, from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM, EDST. You are welcome to come out and learn what we've been involved with the past year. Staff will be on hand to answer questions. Comment sheets will be provided for your use should you wish to express ideas or concerns in writing. Perhaps our highlight this past year



is the ongoing construction of a 7 bay storage building next to the office. We hope to be able to show the progress this in house project has made.

To find our door, go on SR 62 west of Corydon or east of Leavenworth to SR 462. Go 3 miles to the entrance gate-house for the O'Bannon Woods State Park. Proceed for about another 1200 feet, turn left for another 890 feet, turn left in front of the white building. Our office is at the far end. We hope to see you then.



Research Projects

The Indiana State Forests have long hosted a variety of research projects related to forestry or natural resources. The past year or so has seen an increase in number and diversity of research taking place on the Harrison-Crawford State Forest. At least a short list includes: Completion of first

round of Continuous Forest Inventory or CFI (Div. of Forestry); Allegheny woodrat studies (long term by the Div. of Fish and Wildlife and Purdue); Hellbender in Blue River (Purdue and The Nature Conservancy); Bird sampling (Audubon Society); Epicormic branching study (Purdue); Indiana bat (long

term Div. Fish and Wildlife); Thousand Canker Disease (U.S. Forest Service); Copperhead study (IUPUI Fort Wayne); Interstate highway/Wildlife study (Purdue); Bird survey (O'Bannon Woods State Park); Some of these projects are ongoing and will continue into the future.

C e m e t e r i e s

Thanks to a local group of dedicated volunteers, headed up by Karl Schetler of Lanesville, one of the cemeteries on this State Forest got a much needed 'facelift' this past year. This trained group spent much time repairing, cleaning, and resetting damaged headstones in the Martin-Hogan-Long a.k.a Flint

Hill a.k.a. Cedar John Cunningham cemetery. This cemetery is in Harrison county, Washington township and has been on State owned land since 1946. Through the years, it had received significant damage from vandals and now, looks so much better. Thank you, Karl and friends for all you do!



Martin-Hogan-Long cemetery



"There was a total of 1,262,096 bd.ft. sold in these sales, bringing a total income to the State of \$307,246 ."

Fiscal year 2011 saw this property put 9 timber harvests on the market. All but one were sold. About 616 acres have or will receive management as a result of these sales. Most are general improvement cuts in native hardwoods. However, one was a storm salvage sale and another was a conver-

T i m b e r S a l e s

sion of 8 acres of eastern redcedar to hardwoods. Some acres received a regeneration cut, which removes the overstory to allow new stands to develop. A few of these openings are intended to release oak seedlings and saplings, which would not otherwise survive to maturity if left in

the shade. Successful oak regeneration has long been a concern amongst foresters and we try to help the situation along when there's opportunities. There was a total of 1,262,096 bd.ft. sold in these sales, bringing a total income to the State of \$307,246 for an average of \$.21 per bd.ft.. While it

Continuation of Timber Sales

varies from year to year, the percentage of the Division of Forestry's budget that is supplied by timber income ranges between 25-30%. The hosting counties will get 15% of the net proceeds of these harvests, this net being \$269,466. Harrison county's share of this amount

will be around \$26,460 and Crawford county's will be around \$13,960. Crawford county's share would have been far more if the one sale had sold. It failed to bring the established minimum bid because we were unable to secure direct access to that

parcel. There are several harvests planned for this current fiscal year. One will be in Compartment 9, the same harvest that failed to sell last fiscal year. One will be in Compartment 23, next to Old Forest Road, another in Compartment 11, off of Cox's Road. A sale is planned

for Compartment 13, along SR 62. Compartment 18 will have a harvest, west of Wyandotte Lake. A small sale is marked in Compartment 3, west of Carefree.



Storage Building Progress

In the last newsletter, I wrote about the starting up of a construction project that would provide us a much needed storage building, next to the property office. Also, I mentioned that, to save money, it would be built with in-house resources. We have been doing this project, fitting it in with other property goals and assignments. At the time

of the last newsletter, we had just the footers and foundation built. Currently, it is under roof with nearly all the siding installed and construction on the interior is progressing. When finished, this building will provide dry storage for equipment and supplies, it will have a work shop space, limited office space and an overnight room to accommodate out of town employees or interns.



Disabled Hunter Trails



Since the early 1990s, Harrison-Crawford State Forest has had a set of 5 forest roads designated as disabled hunter trails. These trails are established to provide hunters with physical dis-

abilities opportunities to experience hunting on the State Forest. To qualify, a person must first receive a permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife. They then must come to the State Forest office to be issued a property permit and check out a gate key. This permit is good only for this State Forest. As with most of our forest road system, these trails may be used for other purposes such

as timber harvest access, and horse or hiking trail segments. Over time, these several uses create need for repairs to maximize accessibility and minimize erosion. In the past year, 2 of these trails have been rebuilt, improving drainage and adding crushed stone. Improvements to 2 others will likely take place within the next couple years.

Farewells and Welcome Aboard

Since the last newsletter, we have had to replace 2 of our full time positions. While 2 doesn't sound like many, they made up 50% of the State Forest's full time staff. Annette Brown, Office Manager, left in late November to work at the Charles-town State Park. Christine Martin, Forest Resource Specialist, transferred into a similar job with the Clark State Forest at the end of December. Due to budgetary constraints, refilling these positions was put on hold until mid June of this year.

Brittanie Sillings, of Corydon, is our new Office Manager. John Segari, from Minnesota, is our new Forest Resource Specialist. Both of these people were sorely needed and are showing themselves to be very capable. While we did not see a return of the Young Hoosier Conservation Corps (YHCC) this year, we have been able to hire 2 temporary laborer positions, Dylan Byrd and Chris Bruce of Harrison County, to assist with projects. Recently, a temporary construction person, Tony Richardson

of Corydon, was hired. Tony has spent his entire career in construction and we look forward to utilizing his expertise on our building project. Lastly, Mike Coggeshall, the Forester for District 9 retired at the end of May. While Mike did not have property duties, he kept an office with us. Mike served close to 38 years with the Division of Forestry and worked in the local district since 1977. We wish him a joyful and well earned retirement.

DNR

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

S t a t e o f I n d i a n a

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Harrison-Crawford State Forest

Property Staff

Dwayne Sieg, Property Manager
Brittanie Sillings, Office Manager
Wayne Werne, Resource Specialist
John Segari, Resource Specialist
Gary Wiseman, Laborer

Cooperative Forest Management

District Forester: Position currently open.

Other Contacts

Indiana Conservation Officers: 812-685-2499
Sheriff's Dept. 812-738-2195 or 812-338-2802
District Wildlife Biologist: 812-789-2724
The Nature Conservancy: 812-737-2087
O'Bannon Woods St. Park: 812-738-8232
O'Bannon Woods, Nature Center: 812-738-8234
Wyandotte Caves: **CLOSED** during the 2011 Season.

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