PLANNING FOR "FORESTRY"

Implications of Senate Enrolled Act No. 518 (P.L. 82-2005) – “Right to Practice Forestry Act”
Communities at The Crossroads VIII
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Introduction and Background
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Planning for Forestry in Starke County
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IPA’s Summary

- Largely pre-empts local control of forestry operations.
- Definition of forestry operations very broad
- Encourages local government recognize needs of forestry in growth plans.
- Certain forestry activities not a public or private nuisance.
- Voids local ordinances adopted after 3/31/05 that establish forestry operations as a nuisance.
- Prior ordinances regulatory authority limited to ensuring forestry operations use BMP’s.
What Is “Forestry”

- Passive activity – pay taxes and let the trees grow, sell timber when money needed
- Active management – Classified forest, at least minimal level of management, sell timber
- Active management with on-site utilization – cut firewood, produce logs, produce lumber on portable mill
What Isn’t “Forestry”

• Industrial operations – sawmills, veneer mills
• Nurseries – landscaping trees and shrubs
• Logging – a separate “industry” that obviously has to operate on forest land so it’s an integral part of forestry, a forestry activity
Who Owns Indiana's 4,342,000 Acres of Timberland

- Individuals: 77%
- National Forest: 0.4%
- Other Federal
- State
- County and city
- Forest Industry
- Corporate

Image shows a pie chart with the percentage distribution of ownership.
Size Distribution of Acreage Owned by Individuals, 1993

Percentage of total individual acreage

Acreage classes

0  5  10  15  20  25

1-9  10-19  20-49  50-99  100-199  200-499  500-999  1000-4999