

(This a sample plan developed by Indiana NRCS that references the national deliverables of a forest management plan meeting the national Conservation Planning Activity 106 and Design and Implementation Activity 165(consult the national documents found on the USDA website at [FY23 EQIP CPAs, DIAs, and CEMAs | Natural Resources Conservation Service \(usda.gov\)](#)). The CPA106 and DIA165 must include all the information in the deliverables section of these documents.

If using this sample plan as a template add content or adjust any section as needed. The text in blue can be edited to fill in information or removed once the section is complete as it is primarily information or guidance. Delete this paragraph and the other remaining blue text before sending the plan to the landowner or NRCS).

The Comparison Sheet titled “Criteria and Checklist Forest Management Plan Conservation Planning Activity (Code CPA-106) and Forest Management Design and Implementation Activity (Code DIA-165) National Resource Conservation Service – Indiana 2022 v1.0” aligns with the deliverable numbers found in this sample plan.)

THE ADD NAME FAMILY FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

(This section aligns with deliverables 1a,b,c,e, 2a,b)

Prepared For: Enter Landowner’s Name	Technical Service Provider Information:
Address: Enter Mailing Address	Your Name
City, State and Zip: Enter City, State and Zip	Your Company Name
Phone Number: Enter Phone Number	Your Address
Email Address: Enter Email Address	Your City, State and Zip
	Your Phone Number
Property Location: Section XX, Township XX North, Range XX East, Civil Township, County, Indiana	Your Email Address
Tax Parcel Number (s): Enter Tax Parcel Numbers	TSP Number: Enter TSP Number TSP Expiration Date: Enter Expiration Date
Property Acres: Enter Acres to the 1/10th	Farm Bill Program: <input type="checkbox"/> EQIP <input type="checkbox"/> CSP <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	Farm Bill Contract Number: Enter Contract #
Conservation Planning Activity 106 and DIA 165 (Retain DIA165 if you are completing both)	
Date Prepared: Enter Date Plan Prepared	
Plan Expiration Date: Enter 10-year date	
<i>(This section aligns with Deliverables 2b)</i>	
Services provided by Company Name will:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with all applicable Federal, State, Tribal, and local laws and requirements. • Meet applicable program requirements and recommended planned practices are based on NRCS conservation practice standards and specifications. • Be consistent with and meet the conservation program goals and objectives for which the program contract was entered into by the client. • Incorporate alternatives that are both cost effective and appropriate to address the resource issues. 	
Indiana Resource Concerns (check all that apply)	
<i>(This section helps complete deliverables 7a and c)</i>	

Concentrated Erosion: <input type="checkbox"/> Bank Erosion from Streams <input type="checkbox"/> Classic Gully Erosion (these may originate outside of the forested land such as cropland) <input type="checkbox"/> Ephemeral Gully Erosion	Degraded Plant Condition <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Productivity and Health <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Structure and Composition Terrestrial Habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Terrestrial Habitat for Wildlife and Invertebrates	Pest Pressure <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Pest Pressure (Invasive Species)
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(This section aligns with deliverable 1d.)
The management goals for this property are: *(Provide detailed description of landowner's goals. The ones listed below are just to stimulate conversation with the landowner. Edit and remove as needed.)*
Forest Stand Improvement/Income
Wildlife habitat
- List primary wildlife species (Songbirds, pollinators, game birds, deer, other game mammals, rare species, etc.)
- Pollinator habitat and protection
Recreation
Agroforestry
Income
Oak regeneration

Signatures and Approvals *(This section aligns with deliverable 3a)*

Landowner
I have reviewed this plan and believe the management recommendations will help me meet my goals and objectives for my property. *(Include if you are doing a DIA165 or joint CPA106 and DIA165)* The plans and specifications outlined in this plan adequately represent existing conditions on the property and I understand them along with the operation and maintenance suggestions.

Landowner

Date

NRCS Assistance Programs

I certify that this Forest Management Plan meets the requirements of the USDA Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP) Program and/or the Quality Criteria for forest activity plans in Section III of the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.

Technical Service Provider

Number

Date

NRCS Designated Conservationist

Date

PROPERTY-LEVEL DESCRIPTION *(This section aligns with deliverables 5 a-n. Include all sections, but only expand on the ones that apply to the property. For the sections that do not apply just state the section does not apply or it is not a priority for the landowner.)*

Property Description and History: *(Describe the general layout of the property, forest types, age, growth structure, and condition of property. Include information on slope, topography, and aspect to meet deliverable 5g. Include information on adjacent land and ownership to align with deliverable 5b. For property history include past management and use of the property to align with deliverable 5g.)*

Property Access and Forest Roads and Trails: *(Describe access to the property from a county road to the actual forest. Reference the map that shows access. Include information on roads, trails, landings, and stream crossing to align with deliverable 5d.)*

This property is located insert description of property location and how to access the property here.

Stock Text include after your site-specific description of access, roads, and trails. Trails supply access to the parcel. A trail system often increases property enjoyment and improves access for resource management, fire control, and recreation use. If the trails are improved, it is important to layout, construct, and maintain the trail system to drain naturally, avoid the buildup of water, minimize erosion, and to follow other 'best management practices' to conserve natural resources.

Boundary Marking: *(Describe how the property lines are marked. What is used to mark the boundary, color, survey issues or questions? This is a good place to mention if there are survey needs that landowner should consider. This section helps meet deliverables 5d.)* The boundaries of this property are marked with

Water and Soil Protection: *(Describe creeks, streams or lakes found on the property. Supply names from the USGS Topographic maps if it is a named creek. Identify watershed the property is found. The "How's My Waterway" [How's My Waterway | US EPA](#) is a good site to put in a property address and find out watershed information. This section aligns with deliverables 5f.)*

Stock text to include after your site-specific description of water resources. Woodlands and other natural areas are extremely effective at filtering pollutants and minimizing erosion as water moves across the landscape. You can maintain this effectiveness by following basic Best Management Practices (BMPs) when using any type of heavy equipment in your natural areas such as during timber harvesting operations. For more information on BMPs, go to [DNR: Forestry: Forestry Best Management Practices \(in.gov\)](#).

Fish, Wildlife, and Biodiversity: *(Include information on local wildlife and diversity in this section. Try to incorporate intentional wildlife recommendations such as those found in Forest for the Bird Guidance and Biology Technical Note #4 found at https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/IN/Technical_Note_4_Biology_Upland_Wildlife_Habit_at_Management-2019.pdf. This section aligns with deliverables 5j.)*

Protected Animal and Plant Species and Cultural Resources: *(Include information on Threatened and Endangered Species in this section. All CPA106 and DIA165 require an effects determination from NRCS regarding threatened and endangered species. Work with your local district conservationist to understand the results of that determination and if species are identified plan for them accordingly in your management plan. This section aligns with deliverables 5a, 8e, and Appendix A 2a.)*

(Include this language) Landowners enrolling in USDA conservation programs and receiving federal financial assistance must adhere to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and NRCS policy regarding State and Tribal species of concern. NRCS works with the US Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure that actions taken to implement conservation programs do not jeopardize the continued existence of threatened and endangered species. NRCS has made an initial effects determination on species found to occur on or around your property.

See the attached analysis from NRCS. Based on the NRCS review *(describe how we will manage to accommodate species identified or identified cultural resources or note if none were identified. Regardless of species noted, we must still manage according to the US Fish and Wildlife Services Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat Habitat Guidelines. Describe how the guidelines will be incorporated into forest management recommendations.)*

Recreational Uses: *(Include information on the landowner's use of the property for hunting, hiking, bird watching, gathering, fishing or other recreational pursuits. This section aligns with deliverable 5c.)*

Grazing Practices and Agroforestry: *(If applicable, include information related to grazing on the property and agroforestry operations. This is a good place to mention that woods make poor pastures. This section aligns with deliverable 5h.)*

Forest Health and Invasive Species: *(If there are no invasive species use the description below. If there are invasive species present, list each invasive species, provide a short description and tell what problems they cause. General control information can be mentioned here, and you can include a photo if possible. A table listing invasive species, location and % cover can be included here or later in stand descriptions or maps. This section aligns with deliverable 5k and 6k. Address other forest health issue related to insect and disease to align with deliverable 5k.)*

No invasive species were noticed during the inspection. However, autumn olive, Japanese honeysuckle, Bush honeysuckle, multiflora rose, Japanese barberry, oriental bittersweet, and Japanese stilt grass are common to the area. Where these species of invasive plants are located, eradicate them before their populations increase and they displace the native vegetation.

Prescribed Fire and Wildfire Risk: *(If applicable include information on the potential to use prescribed fire as a management tool. Wildfire risk is very limited in Indiana but address as needed. This section aligns with deliverables 5m, n.)*

Carbon Sequestration: *(Include the text below. No additional information is needed for this section unless the landowner specifically asks for more information. This section aligns with deliverable 5i.)*

A forest that is healthy and vigorously growing will be better able to contend (adapt to?) environmental extremes. Managing the forest through harvesting, forest stand improvement, and controlling invasive species will help to maintain the forest in a healthy state. Harvesting timber and regenerating forests can also result in net carbon sequestration in wood products and new forest growth.

Reforestation: *(Include information on any tree planting needs for the property. This aligns with deliverables 5I.)*

Future Long-Term Land Conservation: *(Not required for CPA 106 and DIA 165. In Indiana, include the following if the land is not currently in the CF&W program)*

Lands enrolled in the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program receive a significantly lowered property tax assessment, periodic forester inspections, and an option to participate in and sell forest products as being 'green certified'. In return, you agree to care for the land and its resources according to program standards and an approved plan tailored to your objectives and property resources. There are roughly _____ acres within this property that can be classified at any time. If you are interested in entering the program, please contact your local Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry District Forester.

Conservation-Based Estate Planning: *(Not required for CPA106 and DIA165, but part of the IDNR Stewardship Plan. Include in Indiana to help make plan compatible with IDNR Stewardship Plan. Expand as needed.)*

The first step to ensuring the personal and family legacy of your land is to talk about its future. This includes the co-owners, heirs, or others affected by the transfer of ownership. Common legacy tools include Family Partnerships; Gift or Sell to Heirs; Land Trusts; Last Will and Testament; Limited Liability Company (LLC); and Conservation Easement among others. Each method of transfer has its advantages and drawbacks. Discussion of these tools with the future owners is necessary to ensure the land is conserved for future generations.

AREA DESCRIPTION AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS		
<i>(Copy and paste this table as many times as needed for each stand. This table aligns with deliverables 6a-k)</i>		
Area Name: <i>(this name should match the name given to the area on the map or PLU Name)</i>		Stand Acres: <i>(Show 1/10ths of acres)</i>
Forest Type: Describe the forest type as hardwood, softwood, mixed hardwood, beech maple, oak-hickory, tree planting, or other.		
Basal Area:	Trees per acre:	Average Diameter:
Current % Stocking:		Site Index:
Stocking Level (based on Stocking Guide for upland hardwoods, Roach and Gingrich):		
<input type="checkbox"/> Under Stocked ≤ 60% <input type="checkbox"/> Adequately Stocked 60-80% <input type="checkbox"/> Fully Stocked 80-100% <input type="checkbox"/> Over Stocked >100%		

FSI Levels:	Thinning Level	Reduction of BA/ac	Trees Killed/ac	Crop Trees Released/ac
	Light	10 - 30 sq. ft.	100 - 199	10 - 20 trees
	Medium	30 - 40 sq. ft.	200 - 400	21 - 40 trees
	Heavy	> 40 sq. ft.	> 400	> 40 trees

Post-treatment Stocking Condition: Temporary Forest Openings (TFO) = < 5%, Low (L. Stock) = 5%-40%

Stand	Acres	Pre-treat. Stocking	Pre-treat. Quality	FSI Level	Vines cut/ac.	Post-treat. Stocking	Post-treat. Quality	Year
		Choose	Choose	Choose .		Choose	Choose	
		Choose	Choose	Choose .		Choose	Choose	
		Choose	Choose	Choose .		Choose	Choose	
		Choose	Choose	Choose .		Choose	Choose	
		Choose	Choose	Choose .		Choose	Choose	

Woody or Herbaceous Invasive Species % Cover: *(Use the worksheet for determining % Canopy Cover (<https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/api/CPSFile/5164/>) or collect information during the forest inventory. Map % canopy cover across the property and stands and include it in the map section.)*

Species present: Ailanthus (Tree of Heaven), Amur Cork, Bush Honeysuckle, Autumn Olive, Burning Bush, Callery Pear, Glossy Buckthorn, Japanese Barberry, Japanese Honeysuckle, Japanese Knotweed, Kudzu, Multi-Flora Rose, Oriental Bittersweet, Paulownia, Periwinkle, Siberian Elm, Winter Creeper, Black Alder, Privet, Norway Maple, Other: _____

All woody shrubs, vines and tree species found on the Biology Technical Note #9, United States Department of Agriculture (usda.gov), can be planned for and should be treated with 314 Brush Management.

Invasive Species Stand Level Management Recommendations:

Pre-Treatment Level:

Light = 0-10% cover, Medium = 10-39% cover, Heavy = over 40% cover, Very Heavy >60% + shrubs/vines >6 feet tall

Expected Final Post-treatment level: <2% cover, <5% cover, <10% cover

Stand	Acres	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment	Treatment Sequence	Year Sequence
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	1st 2nd 3rd
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	1st 2nd 3rd
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	1st 2nd 3rd
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	1st 2nd 3rd
		Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	1st 2nd 3rd

Primary Tree Species Present:

Stand Description: *(Include information on the general character of the stand. Consider other factors such as current stand health (6e), insect and disease (5k), fire fuels (5m,n), invasive species (6k), level of mortality, crown ratios, canopy height (6i), impact of past management, estimate of stand age (6h), tree growth potential based on soil (6g), site index (6g), regeneration present and potential (6j) and other factors.)*

Desired Future Condition: <i>(Desired Future Condition should reflect what the stand will look like post treatment or management. Include post management BA or % Cover of Invasive Species. Describe regeneration techniques, harvesting system or future monitoring needs. Provide an alternative for reaching the Desired Future Condition and what will happen to the area if nothing is done. This aligns with 7a and 8a.)</i>	
Proposed Basal Area:	Proposed Trees per Acre:
Proposed Average Diameter:	Proposed % Stocking:
Activities to Achieve Desired Future Condition: <i>(List the management activities that need to take place on this stand. List the year the activity should take place; how important it is and if it is a multi-year project. These descriptions should match up to one of your maps so the landowner and NRCS can see where on the property the practice should take place and correspond to the Planned Forestry Conservation Practices Table below. This aligns with 7a and 8a and c.)</i>	
<i>Include the following if a harvest is recommended:</i> High grading (the removal of the highest-grade timber, leaving only lower quality, less desirable trees) is not a valid management option. Diameter limit harvest is also not a valid management option except in very limited cases. Diameter limit harvest should not be used in your forest stand unless it is recommended in this plan. It is highly recommended to use a professional forester and qualified logger when undertaking a timber sale and harvest.	

Planned Forestry Conservation Practices and Management Project Summary: *(When completing the project summary below, it is best to break out each practice by year. For example, if scheduling 314 brush management use three lines to enter each year of treatment. In the "Practice" box include a description like "Brush Management – Heavy." This section aligns with deliverables 8b and g.)*

Year Planned	Tract #	PLU (Field #)	Practice Code	Practice Name	Planned Amount	Practice Unit	Year Completed
				(Right Click and Click Insert and then Insert Row Below to add Row)			

Attachments: *(Include all of the necessary maps (property, soil, etc.), soil descriptions (5e), inventory data (7b and c), correspondences (Appendix A 3a-c), and Implementation Requirements (Appendix A 2b*

and c). Include information on Best Management Practices (5e), any permits and operation and maintenance agreements (8i) included in the Implementation Requirements.

Maps: (Insert maps here. Typically, you will need at least three maps. General Location Map (deliverable 4a-e) that shows the general property, location, access, water features, roads, public land and any other general features. Forest Management Plan Base Map (4d) should be stand specific and show the property lines, different stands on the property, acreage of each stand, management planned to occur on those stands and any other stand specific information. On the stand map show where the practices are scheduled, use the NRCS practice name and number code if possible, amount of area to be treated or feet of practice and the years to be implemented. Soils map and soil descriptions (4c), and Invasive Species % cover (4d). (Maps should include map title, client's name, TSP name, location, date prepared, map scale, north arrow and legend. This section meets deliverable 4.)

Correspondence: (Include conservation assistance Notes that document each significant interaction with the client including date, activity, notes, parties present, TSP present, emails, phone calls or other interactions. This section aligns with Appendix A 3a-c, and 4.)

Date	Activity	Notes	Parties Present	TSP

If contracted to develop a CPA106 you do not have to include the Design and Implementation Activity section below or attach any Implementation Requirement sheets to this plan. If contracted to develop both a CPA106 and DIA165 include this section. If contracted just for a DIA165 you will need to ensure the previously written CPA106, CAP106 or forest management plan includes all the information required for the DIA165 or develop that content along with the Design and Implementation Activity section below and the Implementation Requirement sheets.

Design and Implementation Activity 165 (DIA165): (Implementation Requirements must be included for each practice recommended in the Management Project Summary that is an NRCS practice. The Implementation Requirements can be found at <https://efotq.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/>. From the home page select a state, then Section IV, then Conservation Practice Standards & Support Documents, then select the practice by name. The Implementation Requirements will be in the document with the practice code then IN IR and the name of the practice. This aligns with deliverables 8b-i.)

Implementation Requirements: (Check the Implementation Requirements included with this plan and attach the Implementation Requirements at the end of the plan or as a separate attachment.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> 314_IN_IR_Brush_Management	<input type="checkbox"/> 666_IN_IR_Forest_Stand_Improvement
<input type="checkbox"/> 612_IN_IR_Tree-Shrub_Establishment	<input type="checkbox"/> 380_IN_IR_Windbreak/Shelterbelt
<input type="checkbox"/> 649_IN_IR_Edge_Feathering	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: write in as needed
<input type="checkbox"/> 655_IN_IR_Forest_Trails_and_Landings	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: write in as needed

Inventory Data: *(For the DIA165 only, attach copies of your inventory plot data or printed summary of inventory results including dates, number of plots taken, and inventory specifics such as Basal Area, Trees/Acre, Average Diameter and stocking levels. This aligns with deliverable 7b.)*