

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/20/2019 4:00:00 AM

First name: Chris

Last name: Schimmoeller

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Forest Service,

I am very much against the proposal to amend the Forest Plan for the Indiana Bat. The proposal will weaken important protections for a bat species in perilous decline. According to your own analyses, rare and vulnerable aquatic species have been protected from significant impact of timber harvest through current standards and BMPs. Loosening Indiana Bat protections will result in an expanded window of time for timber harvesting operations and will result in more logging, exposed soils and potential for water quality degradation that will have a cumulative negative impact on aquatic species while also jeopardizing the endangered Indiana Bat. The fact that no other national forest in our region is contemplating this kind of amendment indicates that it is not necessary for the bat or aquatic species.

Besides being not needed, the amendment will result in unacceptable harm to rare species. Please do not amend the DBNF Forest Plan.

Sincerely,

Chris Schimmoeller

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