

## **Changes Made to Draft FRAS Documents Following Public Comment Period**

Draft documents of the Statewide Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy (FRAS) were released on April 26, 2010 for a one-month public comment period. A total of 18 individuals or organizations submitted comments during that period. Public comments were reviewed and considered in preparing the final FRAS documents, which were submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service on June 18, 2010. Stakeholder input on key forest issues that was received earlier in the FRAS development process is not presented here, as it is reported in the assessment document.

The following list highlights the differences between the draft and final versions of the FRAS documents. These changes were made in response to public comments, input from partners, and discussions among staff within the Ohio Division of Forestry.

Key Changes (page numbers indicate location in Final FRAS document):

### Assessment Document:

- Pages 35-36: added text to the comments column in Table 1d on federally listed wildlife and added a second table (Table 1e) with wildlife candidate species and species of concern.
- Page 39: added column to Table 1f that indicates whether each bird species is listed as a priority species or a species of conservation concern, and the source of that listing.
- Pages 64-65: expanded text in invasive plant section and added list of exotic invasive plants in Ohio (based on list developed by ODNR DNAP and TNC).
- Page 126: added map showing three of the proposed multi-state priority areas (Fig. G).
- Pages 127-132: added "Summary" section that includes bulleted highlights from each criterion in the Conditions and Trends Section of the Assessment, as well as a list of current data gaps.

### Assessment Appendix:

- Pages A7-A14: added unedited comments from the stakeholder surveys.
- Page A15: added description of meetings with key partners and statewide committees that contributed to the FRAS development.

### Strategy Document:

- Pages 4-18: added matrices for each state issue that describe the necessary resources and approach to implementing the statewide strategies.
- Page 7: expanded most strategies under Objective 2.3 to include ecosystem services.
- Page 12: added text about "old forests" to Strategy 4.2.1, which addresses the protection of High Conservation Value Forests.
- Page 12: changed strategies 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 about increasing early-successional habitat to also include mature forest habitat (>100 years of age).
- Pages 19-29: added Division of Forestry (DOF) program descriptions and a crosswalk table that compares strategies and DOF programs.



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