



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 5, 2017

**Forest Advocates Celebrate Relocation of Veterans Memorial
*Neighbors, Veterans Thrilled by Decision***

Statement from the Indiana Forest Alliance:

“The organizations and citizens who have been working to protect this amazing old growth forest are thrilled that this land swap has been made. This choice honors veterans by preserving our natural heritage. We are grateful to Secretary David Shulkin and Ronald Walters of the VA in Washington, Sen. Joe Donnelly for his leadership negotiating a solution behind the scenes, and Mayor Joe Hogsett for speaking out in favor of the value of the forest to our community.

We thank Crown Hill for their flexibility -- and we look forward to working with Crown Hill to enable this forest to be permanently preserved.

This positive outcome was also made possible by the hundreds of citizens -- veterans, school kids, and many more -- who picked up the phone, marched, picketed, wrote letters, made signs, and even some who risked arrest -- to speak out for the good that forests do for our health, our air, and our quality of life.

This positive outcome is possible because of the collaboration of the organizations including Indiana Forest Alliance, Heartlands Sierra Club, Hoosier Environmental Council, the Alliance of Crown Hill Neighbors, the Crown Hill Neighborhood Association, and others.”