

**\*\* calling all forest advocates \*\***

# SUPPORT SB 610

## *Public Input for Public Forests*

### **What is SB 610?**

It's a bill co-authored by Senators Ruckelshaus, Bassler, Tomes and Stoops. Rather than telling the DNR how to practice forestry, this bill would establish a state policy of mandating multiple use of state forests.

If passed, Senate Bill 610 would:

- establish a state forest commission that will assess the current management of state forests and propose a 100-year plan for their management.
- ensure that the commission includes representation from DNR, foresters, forest user groups, forest industry reps, and forest conservation advocates.
- ensure that the study conducted by the commission includes citizen input, including from neighboring state forest property owners, and from wildlife experts.
- ensure that the plan establishes a balance in the overall state forest system that provides for multiple uses of recreation, wildlife habitat, timber harvest and areas set aside from logging for natural succession.

This legislation will establish “a balanced strategy the allows stakeholders to share the state forest system in a way that best satisfies the needs of all” [quoting the bill].

### **What action can I take?**

- Call your Indiana state senator today (**800-832-9467**), ask him/her to support and cosponsor the bill, and to ask Sen. Sue Glick, Chair of the Senate Natural Resources Committee, to give this bill a hearing.
- Call Governor Holcomb (**317-232-4567**) and ask for his support in creating a new forest management plan for the benefit of all. THANK YOU.