

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

LS 6924

BILL NUMBER: HB 1414

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 4, 2026

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Forest Management.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Baird

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: The bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to establish recreational fees for the access and use of state forest land. It provides that the DNR shall ensure that at all times: (1) 10% of state forest land consists of forests that are 100 years or older; and (2) 10% of state forest land consists of forests that are 20 years or younger. It provides that money in the State Forestry Fund does not revert to the state General Fund.

Effective Date: July 1, 2026.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Workload could potentially increase for the DNR as the bill requires them to establish fees for the access and use of state forest land, to investigate new revenue raising methods, and to ensure at all times that state forest land consist of forests of certain ages by percentage.

Explanation of State Revenues: The bill could potentially increase revenue to the State Forestry Fund if the DNR establishes fees that are not currently charged (they currently charge for various things such as camping, shelter house rentals, horse trails, and lake use). The bill specifies that the State Forestry Fund is nonreverting, which should not have an impact as the fund is already administered as a dedicated fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: State Peoplesoft Financial Data; <https://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/properties/recreation/>.

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