

Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association, in coordination with the Indiana Division of Forestry, is seeking woodland owner volunteers who are interested in helping to measure the impacts of deer on tree regeneration.

We are looking for volunteers to install deer exclosure fencing on their property to demonstrate deer impact effects. While there is anecdotal evidence of negative effects from deer browse, there is little data about deer impact on forest regeneration on private lands. This study will begin to identify the impacts to seedlings on private property in a variety of habitats.

A total of 60 deer exclosures will be installed by landowners across the state, representing all ecoregions. Fencing materials and seedlings for monitoring browse will be provided.

Selected participants will be required to:

- Install a deer exclosure according to provided specifications. Fencing materials will be provided free of charge.
- Plant provided seedlings (15 inside and 15 outside the exclosure) to monitor deer damage.
- Install deer exclosure and plant seedlings preferably by April 15, **no later than May 1st.**
- Measure seedling heights and report results. The first data collection upon planting of trees, with at least three additional measurements over the course of two years.
- Provide a UPS shipping address where all fence materials and seedlings will be shipped.
- Monitor the exclosure regularly to confirm it is still functioning as intended and there has been no breach in the fence. If so, an immediate repair is required.

Additional information:

- Exclosures will be located in mixture of:
 - 1-3 year old tree plantings
 - forest sites harvested in the last 1-2 years
 - forest sites with no harvest in the last 10 years
- Not all applicants may be selected to participate. Priority will be based on the geographic location, type of site available, and date of application of interested volunteers.
- Dimensions for the deer exclosure are recommended at 15' x 15', but no less than 10' x 10'. Volunteers are responsible for installation; however, IFWOA will provide directions on proper location and installation and provide fence materials and seedlings.

- Some properties may be requested for field tours or demonstrations with landowner permission.
- More than one enclosure can be installed on a given property if more than one location type is present.
- **Note safety precaution:** Putting up an 8 foot fence safely requires some manual dexterity, strength and two people. If you are NOT able to man a ladder or truck tail gate to do the top fastener SAFELY, to install the fence posts, or to haul the materials to the site, please consider before signing up.

Project Start Date: February 20, 2017

Project End Date: March 1, 2019

Number needed: 60 exclosures

Project Organizer: Indiana Forestry & Woodland Owners Association

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