The Hoosier-Shawnee Ecological Assessment

Frank R. Thompson, III, Editor
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This report is a scientific assessment of the characteristic composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems in the southern one-third of Illinois and Indiana and a small part of western Kentucky. It includes chapters on ecological sections and soils, water resources, forest, plants and communities, aquatic animals, terrestrial animals, forest diseases and pests, and exotic animals. The information presented provides a context for land and resource management planning on the Hoosier and Shawnee National Forests.

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**Key Words:** crayfish, current conditions, communities, exotics, fish, forests, Hoosier National Forest, mussels, plants, Shawnee National Forest, soils, water resources, wildlife.

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**Cover photograph:** Camel Rock in Garden of the Gods Recreation Area, with Shawnee Hills and Garden of the Gods Wilderness in the background, Shawnee National Forest, Illinois.
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Preface

Initiated by the Hoosier and Shawnee National Forests, this report is a scientific assessment of the characteristic composition, structure, and processes of ecosystems in the southern one-third of Illinois and Indiana and a small part of western Kentucky. Data and findings from the assessment should provide a helpful context for land and resource management planning on the two national forests; however, the assessment makes no management decisions or recommendations.

The report is organized into nine chapters; the introduction and chapters addressing ecological sections and soils, water resources, forests, plants, aquatic animals, terrestrial wildlife, forest diseases and pests, and exotic animals.
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