

Consideration of the dedication of the Fern Station Nature Preserve in Putnam County

This proposed nature preserve contains 568.47 acres.

Fern Station is an unbroken forest that offers forest interior habitat for wildlife. It is dominated by white oak, beech and hickory trees, and rich with woodland species, including wood thrush, Acadian flycatcher, and Northern parula. Red-shouldered hawks are present, and the site is home to an abundant population of Kentucky warblers.

Rare species include: cerulean, worm-eating, and hooded warblers; broad-winged hawks; and Eastern box turtles. Tributaries of Snake Creek contain amphibian life. The wooded ravines support a rich understory of native shrubs and a variety of fern species, including maiden hair, broad beech, fragile, glade, sensitive, Christmas, silvery spleenwort, and crested ferns.

In 2022, the State of Indiana's Next Level Conservation Trust pledged \$3.1 million toward acquisition of Fern Station. CILTI donors contributed more than one million dollars to purchase Fern Station and protect it forever.

It is owned by Central Indiana Land Trust, Incorporated.

The Division of Nature Preserves recommends dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

Fern Station Nature Preserve
Putnam County
568.47 acres

NRC Exhibit A
USGS Quad: Clinton Falls, Reelsville
Ownership: Central Indiana Land Trust, INC.

