



**STATE OF INDIANA
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

THIRD FLOOR STATE HOUSE
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

Indiana State Budget Committee
200 W Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

June 13, 2025

Dear Members of the State Budget Committee,

We strongly support the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' request to allocate the remaining \$972,000 from the original \$5 million McCormick's Creek tornado damage fund to facilitate critical repairs and restoration at the Brown County State Park horse camp area.

The horse camp area suffered extensive damage during the tornado, with uprooted trees destroying electric hook-ups and power infrastructure. The trail system was severely impacted, limiting access, and the roads have been further degraded by heavy equipment used in cleanup efforts.

These funds are essential for more than just debris removal; they will enable comprehensive repairs to the campground and road system, restoring safe access and functionality. The horse camp is a vital asset, cherished by Indiana residents and attracting out-of-state visitors, contributing over \$320,000 in annual revenue. As one of the state's premier equestrian camping facilities, it plays a significant role in the local and regional outdoor recreation economy.

We urge the consideration of this funding reallocation to ensure the timely restoration of this important recreational and economic resource, preserving its safety, accessibility, and economic benefits for our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dave Hall".

Dave Hall
State Representative
House District 62

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Koch".

Eric Koch
State Senator
Senate District 44

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