

Too Restrictive, Hoosiers Fear

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Warbler May Stymie Guard

By JERRY MOSKAL
Capitol Bureau

Tank and artillery units from the Indiana National Guard may look for a new training site unless Michigan solves a Warbler problem at Camp Grayling.

Indiana officials fear that Michigan in protecting the endangered Kirtland's Warbler may impose overly restrictive rules that could limit maneuvers by the armored units.

BUT, WILLIAM J. Watt, executive assistant to Indiana Gov. Otis R. Bowen, said there is no plan this year to divert the Indiana armored and artillery units from Camp Grayling in northern Michigan to another site.

Watt, a first lieutenant in the Indiana National Guard, said those units as well as infantrymen will embark for the camp the first weekend of August for two weeks of training. About 8,000 Guards-

men are involved.

While Indiana's tank and artillerymen will be at Camp Grayling this year, he said it's possible a new training site might be sought in future years in efforts to preserve the Kirtland's Warbler place too many restrictions on those units.

TALKS HAVE been held between Bowen's office and that of Gov. Milliken to find a compromise with which the Indiana Guard could live.

Watt said he understood Milliken's staff may have a compromise plan to protect the birds on the Grayling base that may be acceptable to Indiana. He said the compromise has not yet been forwarded to Indiana.

If there is not an acceptable proposal, Watt said Indiana will probably begin earnest looking for a new site for its armored and artillery units. He said other Indiana guard units would continue to use Grayling.

AN ALTERNATIVE site could be Camp McCoy in Wisconsin, Watt said.

Watt said the Indiana guard has used Grayling as a training site since the 1950s, especially because of the wide range that armored and artillery units had for maneuvers. He said the Indiana Guard pumps in thousands of dollars into the local economy of northern Michigan each year during its two-week training sessions.