

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION**



**AGENDA  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
April 8, 2014**

*R. Matthew Hough*

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R. Matthew Hough  
Executive Director

**Table of Contents**

Call to Order ..... 1

Pledge of Allegiance ..... 1

Roll Call of Commissioners ..... 1

Approval of Minutes of Meeting held January 28, 2014 ..... 1

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 139.4 ..... 2-10

B. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.47 ..... 11-12

**PROPOSED RULE MAKING**

C. Create 58 Pa. Code § 133.6..... 13

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to §§ 131.2, 141.43, 141.44, 141.45 and  
141.47..... 14-17

B. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 147, Subchapter X ..... 18-22

C. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.4 ..... 23-26

D. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.62 ..... 27-28

E. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.1 and create §§ 147.681  
through 147.687 ..... 29-33

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

**OIL/GAS & MINERALS**

A. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement  
Tract 164A-14, State Game Land No. 164, Butler County ..... 34-35

B. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement Amendment  
Tract 35A-13, State Game Land No. 35, Susquehanna County ..... 36-37

Elk Allocation ..... 38

Antlerless Deer Allocation..... 38

Other New Business..... 38

Commission Meeting Dates Approved..... 38

Executive Session, if necessary, will be held immediately following the close of the  
Commission Meeting..... 38

Adjournment ..... 38

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Game Commission

Agenda

The Commission Meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

Robert W. Schlemmer, President  
David J. Putnam, Vice President  
Brian H. Hoover, Secretary  
James J. Delaney, Jr.  
Ronald A. Weaner  
Ralph A. Martone  
Charles E. Fox  
Timothy S. Layton

Approval of Minutes of Commission Meeting held January 28, 2014.

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Adoption of proposed amendments § 139.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2014-2015 hunting/trapping license year.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**(SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)**

**2014-2015 OPEN HUNTING AND FUR TAKING SEASONS, DAILY LIMIT,  
FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT AND SEASON LIMIT  
OPEN SEASON INCLUDES FIRST AND LAST DATES LISTED**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</b>
<i>Squirrels</i> (Combined species) – <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 17	6	18
<i>Squirrels</i> (Combined species)	Oct. 18 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 and Dec. 24 and Feb. 21, 2015	6	18
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Oct. 18 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 and Dec. 24 and Jan. 24, 2015	2	6
<i>Rabbits, Cottontail</i> – <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	4	12
<i>Rabbits, Cottontail</i>	Oct. 25 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 and Dec. 24 and Feb. 21, 2015	4	12

**Ring-necked Pheasant** – There is no open season for the taking of pheasants in any area designated as a wild pheasant recovery area within any wildlife management unit. The Director is authorized to open the pheasant season via executive order in a designated wild pheasant recovery area if the agency is unsuccessful in its efforts to acquire and release wild pheasants.

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male only</i> in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A & 5B <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or female</i> combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C & 5D <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male only</i> in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A & 5B	Oct. 25 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 and Dec. 24 and Feb. 21, 2015	2	6
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or female</i> combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C & 5D	Oct. 25 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 and Dec. 24 and Feb. 21, 2015	2	6
<i>Bobwhite Quail</i> – The hunting and taking of bobwhite quail is permitted in all WMUs except in WMUs 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D where the season is closed.	Oct. 25	Nov. 29	4	12
<i>Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares</i> in WMUs 3B, 3C & 3D	Dec. 26	Dec. 29	1	3
<i>Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares</i> in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D <i>Woodchucks (Groundhog)</i>	Dec. 26	Jan. 1, 2015	1	3
	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons. Hunting on Sundays is prohibited.		Unlimited	

<b>Porcupines</b> Season closed during the overlap with the regular firearms deer seasons.	Sep. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	3	10
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<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<b>Wild Turkey – Male or Female</b>			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow & Arrow only)	Nov. 1 and Nov. 27	Nov. 21 and Nov. 29		
WMU 1B	Nov. 1 and Nov. 27	Nov. 8 and Nov. 29		
WMUs 1A, 2A, 2D, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B & 3C	Nov. 1 and Nov. 27	Nov. 15 and Nov. 29		
WMUs 2C, 2E, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Nov. 1 and Nov. 27	Nov. 21 and Nov. 29		
WMU 5A	Nov. 6	Nov. 8		
WMUs 5B, 5C & 5D	Closed to fall turkey hunting			
<b>Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide<sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only</b>			1	2
	May 2, 2015 and May 18, 2015	May 16, 2015 and May 30, 2015	May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to 12 noon	May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset
<b>Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide Youth Hunt<sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and when properly accompanied</b>	April 25, 2015	April 25, 2015	1	1

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS**

Except as further restricted by this chapter, the seasons, bag limits, hunting hours and hunting regulations for migratory game birds shall conform to regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 703-712) as published in the *Federal Register* on or about August 27 and September 28 of each year. Exceptions:

(a) Hunting hours in § 141.4 (relating to hunting hours).

(b) Nontoxic shot as approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is required for use Statewide in hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl.

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Field Possession Limit After First Day</b>
<i>Crows</i> (Hunting permitted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	July 4	April 5, 2015		Unlimited
<i>Starlings and English Sparrows</i>	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons.			Unlimited

**FALCONRY**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</b>
<i>Squirrels</i> – (Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	6	18
<i>Quail</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6
<i>Cottontail Rabbits</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
<i>Snowshoe or Varying Hare</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	1	3
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male and Female</i> (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6

*Migratory Game Birds* – Seasons and bag limits shall be in accordance with Federal regulations.

**WHITE-TAILED DEER**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Deer, Archery (Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> <i>(Statewide)</i>	Oct. 4 and Dec. 26	Nov. 15  Jan. 10, 2015	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Archery (Antlerless)</i> WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sep. 20 and Nov. 17	Oct. 3  Nov. 29	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Archery (Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Jan. 12, 2015	Jan. 24, 2015	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 3A, 3D, 4A, 4C, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 1	Dec. 13	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered only)</i> <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 1	Dec. 5	One antlered deer.
<i>Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only)</i> <i>(Statewide)</i> Only Junior and Senior License Holders, <sup>3</sup> Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, or in the U.S. Coast Guard, with required antlerless license	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only)</i> <i>(Statewide)</i>	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> <i>(Statewide)</i>	Dec. 26	Jan. 10, 2015	One antlered, or one antlerless-plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

**WHITE-TAILED DEER – (Continued)**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless)</i> <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless)</i> Counties of Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery & Philadelphia	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<i>Deer, Antlerless</i> (Letterkenny Army Depot, Franklin County and New Cumberland Army Depot, York County and Fort Detrick, Raven Rock Site, Adams County)	Hunting is permitted on days established by the United States Department of the Army.		An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

**BLACK BEAR**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Bear, Archery only</i> <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 17	Nov. 21	1	1
<i>Bear, Archery only</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sep. 20	Nov. 15	1	1
<i>Bear, Archery only</i> <sup>4</sup> WMU 5B	Oct. 4	Nov. 15	1	1
<i>Bear, Muzzleloader</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	1	1
<i>Bear, Special Firearms</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D Junior & Senior License holders, disabled and PA residents on active duty in armed services	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	1	1
<i>Bear, Regular Firearms</i> <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 22	Nov. 26	1	1
<i>Bear, Extended Firearms</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2C, 4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	1	1
<i>Bear, Extended Firearms</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 1	Dec. 13	1	1
<i>Bear, Extended Firearms</i> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, & 3D	Dec. 1	Dec. 6	1	1

**ELK**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Elk, Regular</i> <sup>5</sup> <i>(Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i>	Nov. 3	Nov. 8	1	One elk with required license
<i>Elk, Extended</i> <sup>5</sup> <i>(Antlered &amp; Antlerless)</i>	Nov. 10	Nov. 15	1	One elk with required license

**FUR TAKING - TRAPPING**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Minks and Muskrats</i> <i>(Statewide)</i>	Nov. 22	Jan. 11, 2015		Unlimited
<i>Beaver</i> <i>(Statewide)</i>	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2015		
WMUs 1A, 1B, & 3C (Combined)			20	40
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C & 5D (Combined)			20	20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, & 5B (Combined)			5	5
<i>Coyotes, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Striped Skunks, Weasels - (Statewide)</i>	Oct. 26	Feb. 22, 2015		Unlimited
<i>Coyotes &amp; Foxes - (Statewide)</i> <i>(Cable restraint devices may be used)</i>	Dec. 26	Feb. 22, 2015		Unlimited
<i>Bobcat (with appropriate permit)</i> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 20	Jan. 11, 2015	1	1
<i>Fisher (with appropriate permit)</i> WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4D & 4E	Dec. 20	Dec. 25	1	1

**FURTAKING - HUNTING**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<i>Coyotes - (Statewide)</i>				Unlimited
	Outside of any big game season may be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker's license and without wearing orange.			
<i>Coyotes - (During any big game season)</i>				
	May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.			
<i>Opossums, Striped Skunks, Weasels (Statewide)</i>				
	No closed season.			
<i>Raccoons and Foxes - (Statewide)</i>	Oct. 25	Feb. 21, 2015		Unlimited
<i>Bobcat (with appropriate permit)</i> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D & 4E	Jan. 20, 2015	Feb. 10, 2015	1	1

***No open seasons on other wild birds or wild mammals.***

<sup>1</sup> Only persons who possess a special wild turkey license as provided for in section 2709 of the act (relating to license costs and fees) may take a second spring gobbler during the hunting license year; all other persons, including mentored youth hunters, may take only one spring gobbler. A maximum of 2 gobblers per license year may be taken by any combination of licenses or exceptions for mentored youth.

<sup>2</sup> Only one antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>3</sup> Includes persons who have reached or will reach their 65th birthday in the year of the application for the license and hold a valid adult license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).

<sup>4</sup> Only one bear may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>5</sup> Only one elk may be taken during the hunting license year.

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.47

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend § 141.47 (relating to elk) to eliminate the 555 corridor safety zone.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

**Subchapter C. BIG GAME**

§ 141.47. Elk.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) *Prohibitions.* While hunting elk during the elk season, it is unlawful to:

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) Drive or herd elk.

(5) Hunt within the Hick's Run no hunt zone, this being the area immediately adjacent to and north of Route 555, between Hick's Run Road and Huston Hill Road and within .3 miles of route 555.

\* \* \* \* \*

## BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

### PROPOSED RULEMAKING

C. Create 58 Pa. Code § 133.6.

Commentary:

Native to Europe/Asia, Eurasian collared-doves were first introduced to the Bahamas in the 1970's, made their way to Florida by the 1980s, and then rapidly colonized most of North America. The first PA collared-dove sighting occurred in 1996, with the first PA breeding population established by 2004. The second PA Breeding Bird Atlas (2004-2008) found possible breeding populations in 15 survey blocks in 8 counties. Studies on interactions between collared-doves and other species have not yet shown a negative impact on populations of native birds, including mourning doves, though this information is preliminary and largely based on species interactions in milder climates where competition for feeding and nesting resources may not be as strong. As an introduced invasive species, Eurasian collared-doves are not protected under the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act; however, they are not designated as game birds in Pennsylvania and must be classified as a game bird in order to create a hunting season concurrent with mourning doves. Since Eurasian collared-doves are difficult to distinguish from mourning doves in the field, a hunter inadvertently taking a collared dove would be in violation of state law. Conversely, designating collared-doves as exotic species with year-round take could lead to mistaken mourning dove kills. This situation would be remedied by classifying Eurasian collared-doves as a game bird, with hunting seasons concurrent with mourning doves and part of an aggregate daily bag and possession limits. We believe this can be best accomplished by listing the Eurasian collared-dove as a game bird and counting their take as part of the aggregate dove bag. The proposed classification listing can be accomplished by amending 58 Pa. Code § 133.6 as outlined below.

#### CHAPTER 133. WILDLIFE CLASSIFICATION

##### Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 133.6. Eurasian collared-dove.

The Eurasian collared-dove (*Streptopelia decaocto*) is classified as a game bird. For the purpose of licensing, Eurasian collared-doves may be hunted with a general hunting license and a migratory bird license.

Action:

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to §§ 131.2, 141.43, 141.44, 141.45, 141.47.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend §§ 131.2, 141.43, 141.44, 141.45 and 141.47 (relating to definitions; deer; bear; turkey; and elk) to lengthen the broadhead length limitation from 3 to 3.25 inches.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 131. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS**

§ 131.2. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions contained in section 102 of the act (relating to definitions), the following words and terms, when used in this part or in the act, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

\* \* \* \* \*

*Broadhead*—A fixed or mechanical tip affixed to the fore end of an arrow or bolt having sharpened cutting edges consisting of metal or naturally occurring stone.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

**Subchapter C. BIG GAME**

§ 141.43. Deer.

(a) *Archery deer season.*

(1) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt deer during the archery deer season with any of the following devices:

(i) *A bow and arrow.* A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

(ii) *A crossbow and bolt.* A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 141.44. Bear.

(a) *Archery bear season.*

(1) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt bear during the archery bear season with any of the following devices:

(i) *A bow and arrow.* A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

(ii) *A crossbow and bolt.* A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 141.45. Turkey.

(a) *Fall turkey season.*

(1) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt turkey during the fall turkey season with any of the following devices:

\* \* \* \* \*

(iii) *A bow and arrow.* A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

(iv) *A crossbow and bolt.* A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 141.47. Elk.

(a) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt elk during the elk season with any of the following devices:

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) *A bow and arrow.* A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 45 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 1 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

(5) *A crossbow and bolt.* A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 1 inch and may not exceed 3.25 inches in length.

\* \* \* \* \*

DRAFT

B. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 147, Subchapter X.

Commentary:

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend Chapter 147, Subchapter X (relating to mentored hunting program permit) to create and implement a Mentored Adult Hunting Program in Pennsylvania. This program will maintain the mentor-based structure of the Mentored Youth Hunting Program, but will have different species allowances, costs and safety features. Adult participants will now be able to apply for and receive a Mentored Adult Hunting Permit through the PALS system at any of the Commission's issuing agent locations across the Commonwealth prior to participating in the program. Permit application will require participants to supply the required identification information and pay a fee of \$19 for residents and \$100 for non-residents, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS**

**Subchapter X. MENTORED HUNTING PROGRAM PERMIT**

§ 147.801. Purpose and scope.

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to define and implement the Mentored Hunting Program within this Commonwealth and provide for the issuance of hunting permits to eligible individuals.

(b) The Mentored Hunting Program is intended to provide mentors who are dedicated to promoting and sharing this Commonwealth's hunting heritage with others, the opportunity to provide these unlicensed individuals with one-on-one, hands-on experience and in-field training on the mechanical, ethical, safety, responsibility and enjoyment aspects of the hunting experience.

§ 147.802. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

\* \* \* \* \*

*Mentor*—A licensed person, 21 years of age or older who is serving as a guide to a mentored youth or mentored adult while engaged in hunting or related activities.

*Mentored adult*—An unlicensed person, 18 years of age or older, who is accompanied by a mentor while engaged in hunting or related activities.

*Mentored youth*—An unlicensed person, under 12 years of age who is accompanied by a mentor while engaged in hunting or related activities.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 147.803. Application.

(a) *Form and content.* Applications for mentored hunting permits issued under this subchapter shall be made through the Commission or any of its authorized license-issuing agents on the appropriate form designated by the Commission for this purpose. Each application must include the name, address, telephone number, date of birth, Social Security number of the applicant and any other information required by the Commission.

(b) *Eligibility.*

(1) Mentored youth hunting permits are available to youth applicants under 12 years of age. Mentored youth hunting permits are available to eligible youth applicants until they reach 12 years of age, after which a junior hunting license is required.

(2) Mentored adult hunting permits are available to adult applicants 18 years of age or older who have never held a prior hunting license within this Commonwealth or another state or nation. Mentored adult hunting permits are available to eligible adult applicants for a total of 3 consecutive, unbroken license years, after which an applicable adult hunting license is required.

(c) *Minors.* Applications may be submitted on behalf of an eligible mentored youth upon presentation of a written request executed by a parent or legally constituted guardian.

(d) *Fee.*

(1) The fee for a mentored youth hunting permit will be \$1, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

(2) The fee for a mentored adult hunting permit will be:

(i) For residents. \$19, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

(ii) For nonresidents. \$100, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

§ 147.804. *General.*

(a) *License required.* A mentor shall possess a valid Pennsylvania hunting license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) prior to engaging in any mentored hunting activities.

(b) *Permit required.* A mentored youth or mentored adult shall possess a valid applicable mentored hunting permit prior to engaging in any mentored hunting activities.

(c) *Species limitation.*

(1) A mentored youth's hunting eligibility is restricted to the following species: squirrel, woodchuck, coyote, deer and wild turkey.

(2) A mentored adult's hunting eligibility is restricted to the following species: squirrel, ruffed grouse, rabbit, pheasant, bobwhite quail, hares, porcupine, woodchuck, crow, coyote, antlerless deer and wild turkey.

(d) *Seasons and bag limits.* A mentored youth's and mentored adult's hunting eligibility is further constrained by applicable hunting seasons, daily limits, field possession limits and season limits provided in § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year).

(e) *Applicability of junior seasons and antler restrictions.* A mentored youth is eligible to hunt during any special youth hunting seasons that apply to any species specified in subsection (c) and are subject to the same antler restrictions that apply to junior license holders in § 131.2 (relating to definitions).

(f) *Tagging requirements.* Mentored youth and mentored adults shall tag and report all big game harvested in the manner provided in section 2323 of the act (relating to tagging and reporting big game kills).

(g) *Transfer of an antlerless license.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 2711(3) and (5) of the act (relating to unlawful acts concerning licenses), mentors are authorized to transfer antlerless licenses issued to them to an eligible mentored youth or mentored adult. The antlerless license shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting antlerless deer. The transfer of the antlerless license may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the antlerless deer, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth or mentored adult may receive by transfer no more than one antlerless deer license each license year. Mentored youth and mentored adults are ineligible to make direct application for an antlerless license.

(h) *Transfer of a fall turkey tag.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 2711(a)(3) and (5) of the act, mentors are authorized to transfer fall turkey tags issued to them to an eligible mentored youth or mentored adult. The fall turkey tag shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting fall turkey. The transfer of the fall turkey tag may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the fall turkey, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth or mentored adult may not receive by transfer more than one fall turkey tag each license year.

(i) *Transfer of a Deer Management Assistance Program harvest permit.* Notwithstanding the prohibitions in § 147.676(2) and (3) (relating to unlawful acts), mentors are authorized to transfer Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) harvest permits issued to them to an eligible mentored youth or mentored adult. The DMAP harvest permit must be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting antlerless deer. The transfer of the DMAP harvest permit may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the antlerless deer, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth or mentored adult may not receive by transfer more than one DMAP harvest permit each license year. Mentored youth and mentored adults are ineligible to make direct application for a DMAP harvest permit.

§ 147.805. Safety.

While engaged in mentored hunting activities:

(1) A mentored youth shall be stationary, within arms reach and subject to the immediate control of the mentor at all times while in possession of any lawful hunting device. This limitation shall not be construed to apply to mentored adults. Mentored adults shall be accompanied by the mentor within eyesight and in close proximity so that verbal instruction and guidance can easily be understood without the aid of electronic communication devices or sound amplification devices.

(2) A mentor may not accompany more than one mentored youth or mentored adult at any given time. A mentor may not accompany a junior hunter in addition to accompanying a mentored youth or mentored adult.

(3) A mentor and mentored youth may not collectively possess more than one lawful hunting device at any given time. This limitation may not be construed to apply to mentors and mentored adults participating in the mentored adult hunting program.

(4) A mentor and mentored youth or mentored adult shall each comply with section 2524 of the act (relating to protective material required) and with any regulations promulgated by the Commission relating to protective material.

§ 147.806. Liability.

A mentor is responsible and accountable for all actions of the mentored youth or mentored adult occurring while engaged in mentored hunting activities. A mentor who causes or allows a mentored youth or mentored adult to engage in an unlawful act shall be punishable as the principal offender as provided in section 924 of the act (relating to liability for actions of others).

§ 147.807. Violations.

It is unlawful for a mentor, mentored youth or mentored adult to fail to comply with any of the requirements, standards or limitations of this subchapter. A person violating this subchapter shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay the fine prescribed in the act. The Director may additionally deny, revoke or suspend any permit for any violation of this subchapter upon written notice to the permittee.

C. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend § 141.4 (relating to hunting hours) to replace the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2014-2015 hunting license year.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

**Subchapter A. GENERAL**

§ 141.4. Hunting hours.

Except as otherwise provided, wild birds and mammals may be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

\* \* \* \* \*

*(See Pennsylvania Meridian Map, Hunting Hours and  
Migratory Game Bird Hunting Hours Tables)*

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**HUNTING HOURS TABLE  
FOR JUNE 29, 2014 THROUGH JULY 5, 2015**

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
June 29 – July 5	5:08	9:02	Jan. 4 – 10	6:53	5:20
July 6 – 12	5:12	9:00	Jan. 11 – 17	6:51	5:27
July 13 – 19	5:18	8:56	Jan. 18 – 24	6:49	5:35
July 20 – 26	5:24	8:50	Jan. 25 – 31	6:44	5:43
July 27 – Aug. 2	5:30	8:43	Feb. 1 – 7	6:38	5:51
Aug. 3 – 9	5:38	8:34	Feb. 8 – 14	6:31	5:59
Aug. 10 – 16	5:44	8:24	Feb. 15 – 21	6:22	6:07
Aug. 17 – 23	5:51	8:14	Feb. 22 – 28	6:13	6:16
Aug. 24 – 30	5:57	8:04	Mar. 1 – 7	6:03	6:23
Aug 31 – Sept. 6	6:04	7:52	Mar. 8 – 14 <b>*Begins</b>	6:52	7:31
Sept. 7 – 13	6:11	7:41	Mar. 15 – 21	6:41	7:38
Sept. 14 – 20	6:17	7:29	Mar. 22 – 28	6:30	7:45
Sept. 21 – 27	6:24	7:18	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:18	7:53
Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	6:31	7:07	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	8:00
Oct. 5 – 11	6:38	6:56	Apr. 12 – 18	5:56	8:07
Oct. 12 – 18	6:45	6:45	Apr. 19 – 25	5:46	8:14
Oct. 19 – 25	6:53	6:36	Apr. 26 – May 2	5:36	8:21
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1	7:01	6:27	May 3 – 9	5:27	8:28
Nov. 2 – 8 <b>*Ends</b>	6:09	5:20	May 10 – 16	5:20	8:35
Nov. 9 – 15	6:17	5:14	May 17 – 23	5:13	8:42
Nov. 16 – 22	6:25	5:09	May 24 – 30	5:08	8:48
Nov. 23 – 29	6:32	5:06	May 31 – June 6	5:04	8:53
Nov. 30 – Dec. 6	6:39	5:05	June 7 – 13	5:02	8:58
Dec. 7 – 13	6:44	5:05	June 14 – 20	5:01	9:01
Dec. 14 – 20	6:49	5:06	June 21 – 27	5:02	9:03
Dec. 21 – 27	6:52	5:09	June 28 – July 4	5:05	9:02
Dec. 28 – Jan. 3	6:53	5:14	<b>*Daylight Saving Time</b>		

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING HOURS TABLE**

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
Aug. 31 – Sept. 6	6:04	7:22	Dec. 28 – Jan. 3	6:53	4:44
Sept. 7 – 13	6:11	7:11	Jan. 4 – 10	6:53	4:50
Sept. 14 – 20	6:17	6:59	Jan. 11 – 17	6:51	4:57
Sept. 21 – 27	6:24	6:48	Jan. 18 – 24	6:49	5:05
Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	6:31	6:37	Jan. 25 – 31	6:44	5:13
Oct. 5 – 11	6:38	6:26	Feb. 1 – 7	6:38	5:21
Oct. 12 – 18	6:45	6:15	Feb. 8 – 14	6:31	5:29
Oct. 19 – 25	6:53	6:06	Feb. 15 – 21	6:22	5:37
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1	7:01	5:57	Feb. 22 – 28	6:13	5:46
Nov. 2 – 8 *Ends	6:09	4:50	Mar. 1 – 7	6:03	5:53
Nov. 9 – 15	6:17	4:44	Mar. 8 – 14 *Begins	6:52	7:01
Nov. 16 – 22	6:25	4:39	Mar. 15 – 21	6:41	7:08
Nov. 23 – 29	6:32	4:36	Mar. 22 – 28	6:30	7:15
Nov. 30 - Dec. 6	6:39	4:35	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:18	7:23
Dec. 7 – 13	6:44	4:35	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	7:30
Dec. 14 – 20	6:49	4:36	Apr. 12 – 18	5:56	7:37
Dec. 21 – 27	6:52	4:39	*Daylight Saving Time		

D. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.62.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend § 141.62 (relating to beaver trapping) to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height to 12 inches in width and additionally require a single offset trigger positioned in parallel not more than 1 1/2 inches from either vertical section of a set trap.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

**Subchapter D. FURBEARERS**

§ 141.62. Beaver trapping.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) Unlawful acts. It is unlawful to:

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) Set body gripping traps larger than 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width or without a single offset trigger positioned in parallel not more than 1 1/2 inches from either vertical section of a set trap.

\* \* \* \* \*

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E. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 141.1 and create §§ 147.681 through 147.687.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 28, 2014, meeting to amend § 141.1 and create §§ 147.681 through 147.687 (relating to special regulations areas; purpose; permit eligibility and use; operation; record and reports; suspension of baiting sites; violations and sunset clause) to implement a deer attractant permit to authorize limited baiting activities on private property in the southeast special regulations area.

Action:

DRAFT

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING**

**Subchapter A. GENERAL**

§ 141.1. Special regulations areas.

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) Prohibitions.

\* \* \* \* \*

(3) It is unlawful to, except for normal or accepted farming, habitat management practices, oil and gas drilling, mining, forest management activities or other legitimate commercial or industrial practices, intentionally lay or place food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals anywhere in the southeast special regulations area for the purpose of feeding white-tailed deer, or to intentionally lay or place food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals that may cause white-tailed deer to congregate or habituate an area. If otherwise lawful feeding is attracting white-tailed deer, the Commission may provide written notice prohibiting this activity.

(d) Permitted acts. It is lawful to:

\* \* \* \* \*

(7) Hunt or take deer in the southeast special regulations area during regular open hunting seasons for white-tailed deer through the use of or by taking advantage of bait on private property only under a deer attractant permit issued under Chapter 147, Subchapter R (relating to deer control).

**CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS**

**Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL**

**DEER ATTRACTANT PERMIT**

§ 147.681. Purpose.

The purpose of §§ 147.682 – 147.687 is to authorize eligible persons to hunt through the use of or otherwise take advantage of approved bait to enhance the harvest rate of white-tailed deer on private property within the southeast special regulations area where

traditional hunting and deer control methods have proven ineffective in controlling local deer populations.

§ 147.682. Permit eligibility and use.

(a) *Application.* Deer attractant permits may be issued to landowners or their agents who have suffered material damage to their real property in the southeast special regulations area by white-tailed deer. Permits will be made available through a system established by the Director.

(b) *Hunting.* Deer attractant permits may be utilized by landowners and/or persons they permit to hunt on their property, or both, who:

(1) Possess a valid hunting license or qualify for applicable license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) for the geographical area including the proposed bait site.

(2) Have no prior record of violations of the act or this title or related license revocations within the 5 years preceding the date of application.

§ 147.683. Operation.

(a) A deer attractant permit issued under this subchapter authorizes landowners or persons they permit to hunt on their property, or both, to hunt through the use of or otherwise take advantage of approved bait for the purpose of enhancing the harvest rate of white-tailed deer. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:

(1) This authorization only applies during regular open hunting seasons for white-tailed deer in the affected portion of each wildlife management unit located within the southeast special regulations area.

(2) A proposed bait site may not be located less than 250 yards from any previously established bait site authorized under this subchapter.

(3) Approved bait may be distributed at each bait site by approved feeders from 2 weeks prior to the opening of the first white-tailed deer season through the close of the last white-tailed deer season within the applicable wildlife management unit.

(4) Approved feeders are limited to sealed, waterproof, automatic, mechanical feeders that are set to distribute bait up to a maximum of three times per day during legal hunting hours only. The feeder must be visibly tagged or labeled with the landowner's permit number or the full name and address.

(5) Bait accumulation at any one bait site may not exceed 5 gallons total volume at any given time.

(6) Approved bait is limited to shelled corn and protein pellet supplements.

(7) Any person engaging in privileges authorized by a deer attractant permit shall possess a copy of the permit on their person at all times while exercising the permit privileges and while maintaining the bait site and shall produce the permit upon demand of any officer whose duty it is to enforce this title.

(8) It is the sole responsibility of the landowner or his agent and persons they permit to hunt on their property to ensure that the area bait site is in compliance with this section prior to hunting in that area.

(9) The landowner and persons they permit to hunt on their property may not, under any circumstances, hunt, take, kill or harvest any game or wildlife other than white-tailed deer, at the bait site or coming to and from the bait site. Persons not authorized by the landowner to hunt on their property may not, under any circumstances, hunt, take, kill or harvest any game or wildlife at the bait site or coming to and from the bait site.

§ 147.684. Records and reports.

(a) A report of any deer harvested at or near a bait station shall be submitted by the hunter in accordance with the requirements of section 2323 of the act (relating to tagging and reporting big game kills).

(b) An annual report of all deer harvested under the authority of the permit shall be submitted by the landowner or his agent in the manner specified by the Commission within 30 days of the close of the last open season within the applicable wildlife management unit.

(c) Failure to submit a timely and complete annual report required by this section will automatically render the permittee ineligible to reapply for the permit for the subsequent permit year.

§ 147.685. Suspension of baiting sites.

(a) The Commission may suspend the operation of any bait site if one or more of the following is determined: (1) The baiting activity is causing conflict with other lawful hunting. (2) The baiting activity is causing public safety hazards. (3) The operation of the baiting site is not in compliance with the requirements of §§ 147.682 – 147.684 (relating to permit eligibility and use; operation; records and reports). (4) The operation if the baiting site is detrimental to the health and welfare of any wildlife, including white-tailed deer.

(b) The Commission may suspend the operation of bait sites authorized under this subchapter upon the detection of Chronic Wasting Disease within the southeast special regulations area. This suspension may remain indefinitely until the Commission determines that resumption of baiting activities will not create an unreasonable future risk of spreading of the disease on the landscape.

§ 147.686. Violations.

Violations of this subchapter will be prosecuted under section 2308 of the act (relating to unlawful devices and methods). Furthermore, the Director may deny, revoke or suspend any permit for any violation requirements, standards or limitations of this subchapter upon written notice to the permittee.

§ 147.687. Sunset Clause.

Sections 147.681 – 147.686 and this section become effective July 1, 2014 and expire and are rendered void on June 30, 2017, unless the Commission further authorizes their legal effectiveness prior to this termination date.

## WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMNT

### OIL/GAS & MINERALS

#### A. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

Tract 164A-14, State Game Land No. 164, Butler County

Commentary:

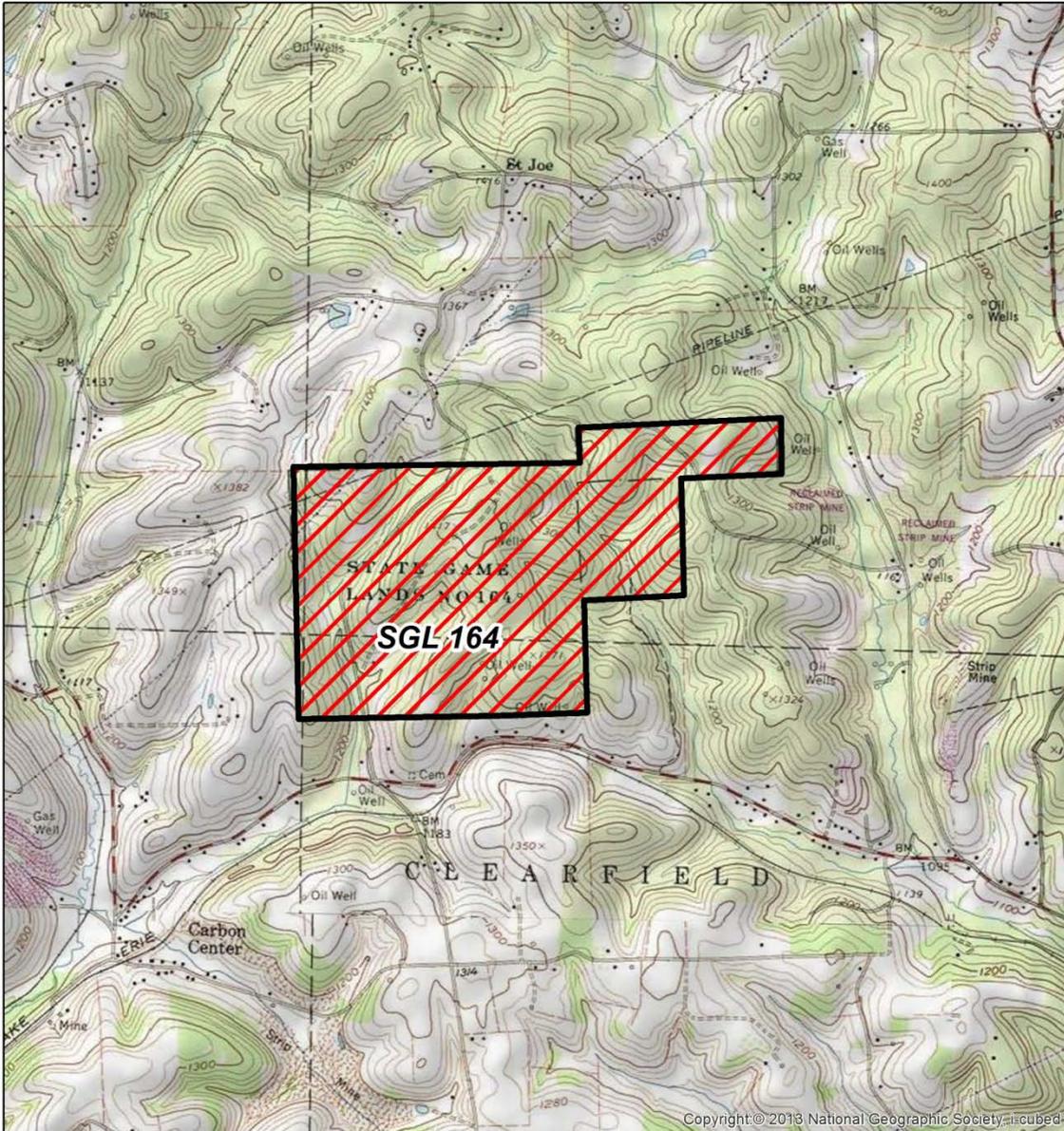
XTO Energy Inc. (XTO) of Fort Worth, Texas requested the Commission offer its oil and gas rights under State Game Land No. 164 for non-surface use development. The proposed tract, containing approximately 455.97 acres, is located in Donegal Township, Butler County (Exhibit OGM 1).

XTO has a strong privately owned oil/gas lease position surrounding State Game Land No. 164, has initiated unconventional well drilling and development programs in the vicinity of the proposed tract, and has the ability to unitize and develop the Commission's oil and gas reserve by horizontal drilling with no surface use or disturbance to the Game Land. The staff has negotiated the proposed terms of the agreement with XTO in an effort to safeguard the prudent development of the Commission's oil/gas reserve and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and recreational use of State Game Land No. 164.

The terms of the Agreement are a five year paid up non-surface use oil and gas agreement, a \$2,000 per acre bonus and 20% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The approximately \$911,940 bonus may be deposited either into the Game Fund or an interest bearing escrow account to be used for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management. Future rentals and royalties owed the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's oil and gas regulations and the Commission's Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement.

Action:



-  Non-Surface Use Agreement Area (455.97 +/- Acres)
-  State Game Land No. 164



0 1,000 2,000 Feet

**EXHIBIT OGM 1**  
**State Game Land No. 164**  
**Restricted Surface Use**  
**Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement**  
**XTO Energy Inc.**  
**Tract 164A-14**  
**455.97 +/- Acres**  
 Donegal Twp., Butler County  
 Northwest Region

B. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement Amendment

Tract 35A-13, State Game Land No. 35, Susquehanna County

Commentary:

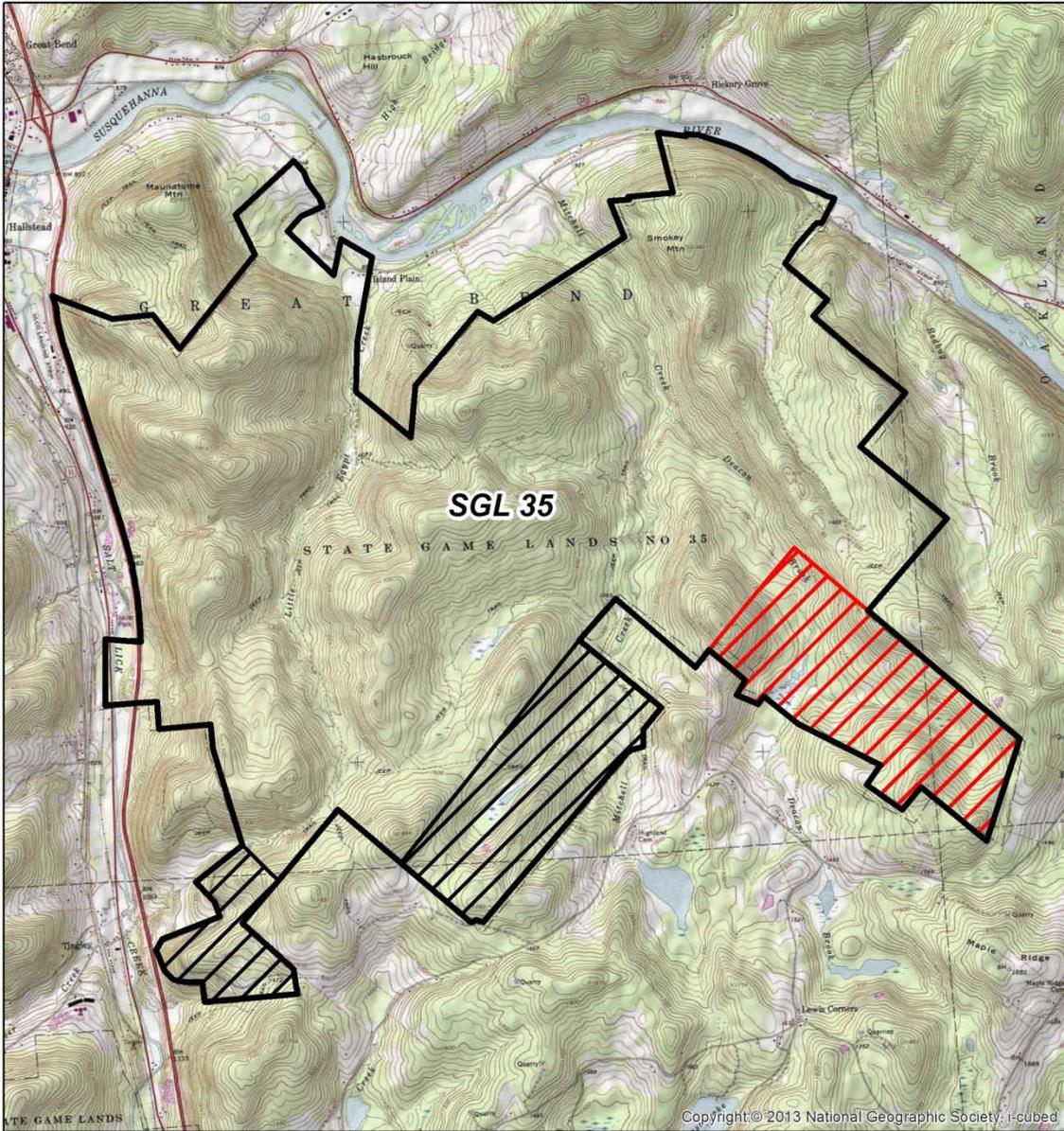
Southwestern Energy Production Company (SWN) of Houston, Texas has requested to amend an existing Commission approved Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement for Tract 35A-13 in Great Bend and New Milford Townships, Susquehanna County. The proposed amendment consists of adding an additional 821.8 acres in Great Bend, Jackson, and Oakland Townships, Susquehanna County for non-surface use (Exhibit OGM 2).

SWN has a strong privately owned oil/gas lease position surrounding the proposed amendment area, has initiated unconventional well drilling and development programs in the vicinity of the proposed tract and has the ability to unitize and develop the Commission's oil and gas reserve with no surface use or disturbance.

The terms of the Amendment are consistent with the existing Agreement, approved by the Commission in June 2013. SWN has agreed to pay the Commission a bonus of \$3,000 per acre and 20% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The \$2,483,145.60 bonus may be deposited either into the Game Fund or an interest bearing escrow account to be used for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management. Future rentals and royalties owed the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's oil and gas regulations and the Commission's Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement.

Action:



-  Current Non-Surface Use Agreement Area (774 +/- Acres)
-  Proposed Non-Surface Use Agreement Amendment Area (821.8 +/- Acres)
-  State Game Land No. 35



**EXHIBIT OGM 2**  
**State Game Land No. 35**  
**Restricted Surface Use**  
**Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement**  
**Southwestern Energy Production Company**  
**Tract 35A-13 Amendment**  
**821.8 +/- Acres**

Great Bend, Jackson, and Oakland Twps., Susquehanna County  
 Northeast Region

Elk Allocation

Antlerless Deer Allocation

Other New Business

Approval of Commission Meeting Dates:

June 9 and 10, 2014  
Sept. 22 and 23, 2014  
Jan. 25, 26 and 27 2015

Executive Session, if necessary, will be held immediately following the close of the Commission Meeting.

Adjournment

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