

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #8</b> <b>Northern Allegheny Plateau</b></p>
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**COUNTY(IES)** Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Lycoming, McKean, Potter, Tioga

**APPROX. SIZE** 4,000,000 acres

**OWNERSHIP** Public (Federal, State, Local), Private

**REASON FOR SELECTION**

- Supports significant populations of species or subspecies with specific habitat requirements
- Contains a rare, threatened, or unique habitat type important to mammals
- Includes a habitat type that supports significant aggregations of mammals during one or more seasons
- Supports important core populations or population segments
- Sustains a confirmed viable local population of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the species or subspecies regularly occurs at the site during one or more seasons
- Includes wild populations of mammals that can be viewed in their natural habitat
- Site is a natural area associated with an established educational program that interprets natural history of resident mammals

**DESCRIPTION**

This large area of north central Pennsylvania is Pennsylvania's largest IMA and includes most of the region north of Interstate 80, west of Pine Creek Gorge, and north of SR 219. Given the size of this IMA, it includes a full range of habitats and types of human disturbance. Nonetheless, it represents the last large block of unfragmented forest habitat (mostly northern hardwoods) remaining in the state. Within this region, there are specific focal areas that are important for specific mammal species. Numerous SGLs are included.

**MAMMAL NOTES**

This region is home to many moderate to large-sized mammals, including fisher (Pine Creek reintroduction site), elk, black bear, bobcat, porcupine, mink, coyote, snowshoe hare, Appalachian cottontail, northern river otter, and beaver. Small mammals include northern water shrews, northern flying squirrels, Allegheny woodrats, and least weasels. Fox squirrels are likely to occur. Focal areas include West Branch Susquehanna River (northern water shrew, Allegheny woodrat, elk), Pine Creek Gorge (northern water shrew, Allegheny woodrat, northern river otter, fisher), Two Rock Run fire area (Appalachian cottontail), Fish Dam Wild Area (black bear, coyote, first reintroduction site of fisher), and the Benezette elk viewing area.

### **CONSERVATION NOTES**

A number of IBAs are included in this area (IBAs #16, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 42), with designations based on occurrence of forest interior species and neotropical migrants, as well as bald eagle, osprey, northern saw-whet owl, and northern harrier. Timber rattlesnakes also occur. Long-term monitoring of small mammals is ongoing at the Parker Dam State Park tornado site. Appropriate forest management is critically-important to maintain the integrity of this area.