

<p style="text-align: center;">PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #9 Hills Creek State Park</p>

COUNTY(IES) Tioga

APPROX. SIZE 407 acres

OWNERSHIP Public (State)

REASON FOR SELECTION

- 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 IMA is located north of SR 6 between Wellsboro and Mansfield. It consists of a 137-acre lake and associated swamps, marshes, and vernal ponds.

MAMMAL NOTES

The Park includes an active beaver colony, as well as common muskrat, southern flying squirrel, gray squirrel, red squirrel, black bear, red fox, gray fox, striped skunk, bobcat, coyote, long-tailed weasel, ermine, and raccoon. While chosen as an IMA for its educational programs on mammals, the abundance of other wildlife species enhance the opportunities for public education. Proximity of a trail to beaver sign suggests potential for developing a “watchable wildlife” site on the role of beaver in wetland ecology.

CONSERVATION NOTES

Residential encroachment is potentially a negative habitat impact, affecting the quality of habitats surrounding the park.