Each time a hunter buys a hunting license, the money he spends goes toward many facets of wildlife management. Since 1920, close to a million and a half acres of State Game Lands have been acquired with these funds. Each year nearly $7,000,000 is spent to improve wildlife habitat. Habitat improvements enhance living conditions for non-game birds and mammals as well as those species which are hunted. Pennsylvania hunters willingly share these lands with the non-hunting public, and with few exceptions, State Game Lands are open for general use year round. Surveys indicate that hunting accounts for only thirty-five percent of game land usage. The remaining sixty-five percent is used by the general public for non-hunting purposes.

“Working Together for Wildlife” is a Game Commission program providing everyone an opportunity to help support wildlife management in the areas for endangered and non-game animals. Monies derived from the “Working Together for Wildlife” Program are being used in Pennsylvania to re-introduce the osprey, river otter, bald eagle, peregrine falcon and provide habitat for other birds and mammals indigenous to the Commonwealth. Construction placement of blue bird houses on State Game Lands provides needed homes for this beautiful songbird. Islands in the Susquehanna River have been set aside as propagation areas for non-game shore birds. Numerous other projects are planned on State Game Lands and other public properties which will also provide food and habitat for non-game wildlife.

The future of Pennsylvania’s wildlife resources requires the concern, cooperation and financial support of everyone, hunters and non-hunters alike. “Working Together for Wildlife” is the answer. Send your contributions to “Working Together for Wildlife”, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17110-6797.

State Game Land (SGL) No. 012 is located in the Pennsylvania Game Commission’s Northeast Region. The property lies within Canton, Franklin, Leroy, and Overton Townships of Bradford County as well as Fox and Elkland Townships of Sullivan County. Leroy is the nearest populated town located approximately 1.8 miles to the north of the central portion of the game land. The Canton Borough is approximately 4.5 miles northwest of the western portion of SGL 012. The nearest Food and Cover Headquarters is located on SGL 289 in West Burlington Township of Bradford County.

Topography is best described as mountainous with many steep slopes rising from the valley bottoms to ridges and plateaued tops. Mountain top elevations reach up to 2,200 feet. SGL 012 is positioned in the Susquehanna River watershed and drainage of the topography is provided mainly by Schrader Creek and its tributaries Sugar Run and Little Schrader Creek.

State Game Land No 012 has a well distributed diversity of land classification types that have components of a variety of hardwood and conifer tree species. The most common hardwood species are red maple, sugar maple, black cherry, American beech, black birch, white ash, aspen, and American basswood. Limited amounts of northern red oak, white oak, and chestnut oak are present in some stands across the game land. Conifer species include eastern hemlock, white pine, eastern larch, plantation Norway spruce, and plantation red pine.

The most popular hunting pursuits are for whitetail deer, black bear, gray squirrel, and wild turkey. American woodcock, ruffed grouse, and eastern cottontail are also hunted in early successional areas and commercially treated habitat. Fun taking opportunities include raccoon, beaver, mink, grey fox, bobcat, and coyote.

The game land is several miles north of Important Mammal Area (IMA) 27 (Wyoming State Forest) and IMA 28 (Ricketts Glen State Park/SGL 57, 53, 64). SGL 012 is located a few miles north of Important Bird Area (IBA) 42 (Wyoming State Forest and Worlds End State Park), IBA 48 (Dutch Mountain Wetlands) and IBA 49 (Ricketts Glen State Park-Creveling Lake Area) with inhabitants that include bald eagles, osprey, American bitterns, and concentrations of forest interior species.