State game land No. 042 is located within Fairfield, Ligonier, and St. Clair Townships of Westmoreland County; Upper Yoder and Lower Yoder Townships in Cambria County; and the Townships of Conemaugh and Jenner in Somerset County. It is comprised of four separate tracts totaling 17,810.8 acres, all within Wildlife Management Unit 2C (WMU 2C).

Most of the game land lies on the west slope of Laurel Mountain. Located in Pennsylvania Game Commission land management group two (2), SGL 042 is maintained by a three-member crew. All water flows into the Ohio River Basin via the Conemaugh River.

State game land 042 has 20 miles of administrative roads and 16 public parking areas. Most roads are closed year-round to motor vehicles and access is controlled with signage and/or 21 locked gates. Two roads are open year-round, and five others are open during bear and rifle deer seasons. Ongoing gas well development is increasing the number of gas well access roads on this game land as well as forest openings. The crew headquarters is on this property. The farthest point on SGL 042 by foot from a parking area or public road is approximately 1 mile. This game land is used by the public for hunting, trapping, hiking, bird-watching, and photography. Gated roads, gas line, and power line rights-of-way provide access for hunters and trappers as well as avenues for hiking, and other outdoor activities.

Horsetack riding, bicycling and snowmobiling opportunities exist on select game land maintenance roads within this game land.

State game land 042 is 97% forested with a lesser amount of utility rights-of-way, terrestrial herbaceous openings, terrestrial scrublands, and herbaceous wetland. The forest composition is one-half oak (53%), and also includes mixed mesophytic, yellow poplar, black cherry, maple, black birch, hemlock, and palustrine forests. The majority of the forest on SGL 042 is in the 40+ year age class.

Generally, silvicultural approaches to achieve management goals include commercial and non-commercial even-aged management techniques such as thinning, shelterwood, group selection, and regeneration release that will be used to intersperse habitats spatially and temporally. Some uneven-aged management techniques will be employed to accelerate late successional habitat character. These include group and single-tree selection that provide coarse woody debris and daylight to the forest floor stimulating regeneration and vertical structure. These practices can be particularly useful in limited and buffer operation zones. Under-planting of conifers will also be used to enhance this forest component and to provide additional winter thermal cover. Herbaceous openings, created by gas well development, will be maintained in legume and legume/mix vegetation, maximizing soil-defined growth potential where topography permits.