SPORTSMEN’S RECREATION MAP

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 17110-9797.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Pennsylvania Game Commission

State Game Lands (SGL) 048 is located within Bedford, Harrison, Cumberland Valley and Londonderry Townships, Bedford County in the Pennsylvania Game Commission’s (PGC) Southcentral Region. Wildlife Management Unit 2C. The game lands is located between State Route 96 and U.S. Route 220, approximately 2 miles southwest of Bedford Borough and 1 mile east of Hyndman Borough. SGL 048 is within a 1.2 hour drive of Unisontown, Chambersburg, Hollidaysburg, and Johnstown. SGL 048 is approximately 100 miles (1.9 hours) east of Pittsburgh, 100 miles (1.75 hours) west of Harrisburg and 40 miles (45 minutes) south of Altoona.

SGL 048 consists of 11,093 acres in two tracts separated by private land. The northern tract is subdivided into Compartments 1 through 5, while the southern tract is subdivided into Compartments 6 through 9. Compartments 1 (1,344 acres), 2 (528 acres), 3 (694 acres) and 5 (1,567 acres) are almost completely forested. Compartment 4 (1,767 acres) is dominantly forested, but also contains the majority of the herbaceous opening acreage, which is located in the Milligan Cove area. In the southern tract, Compartment 6 (1,592 acres), Compartment 7 (1,562 acres), Compartment 8 (1,080 acres) and Compartment 9 (959 acres) are almost completely forested. Most of the game land lies on Wills Mountain south of Bedford. Elevations range from 960 feet above mean sea level to 2,779 feet atop Wills Mountain.

Direct access is limited for the majority of State Game Lands 048. The only access to Compartments 2, 3, 8, and 9 is across private land or by foot via other compartments. A deeded right-of-way joining State Route 3017, Milligan Cove Road provides access to Compartment 1. A PGC parking area located at the gated service road is open year-round where the right-of-way joins the game lands. This service road is open for travel during the hunting season with several parking areas located along it. Compartments 4 and 6 are bisected by Township Road 358 (Milligan Cove Road) with several parking areas adjacent in both compartments. An administrative road just north of the game lands maintenance building in Compartment 4 is open to the public during hunting seasons. This road has two parking areas, one at the foot and a second two-thirds of the way up Wills Mountain. Service roads leading from these two parking areas provide pedestrian access. In Compartment 6, a service road just south of the parking area provides pedestrian access to the top of Wills’s Mountain. Compartments 5 and 7 can be accessed via a right-of-way joining U.S. Route 220 which leads to a parking area and service road at the game land boundary. The service road is open to the public during hunting seasons.

SGL 048 receives considerable numbers of deer, bear, turkey, and small-game hunters. Fields and surrounding shrubby habitats along Milligan’s Cove Road are stocked with pheasants. Rabbit and woodcock hunters use the low-lying fields and shrub habitats in Compartment 4. Big game hunting is concentrated on the ridges, with bear hunting especially popular on the more remote areas of Wills Mountain. Trapping pressure is minimal, but some furtaking, including night hunting for raccoon and fox, also occurs. The game land is used sparingly by local hikers, birders, and to lesser extent horseback riders. Collection of fruit and mushrooms is an occasional seasonal activity.

STATE GAME LANDS
No. 048
BEDFORD COUNTY