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 Lands No. 078
CLEARFIELD COUNTY

State Game Lands 078 is in eastern Clearfield County within the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northcentral Region and Wildlife Management Units 2E and 2G. The most significant impact on this game lands was the construction of Interstate 80 which divided the small tract into separate pieces. Good access exists off of State Route 2030 to the largest parcel of game lands lying south of I-80. There is access through private property to the northern segregated piece.

State Game Land 078 is 91% forested with forest age distribution heavily weighted toward the 81-125 year age classes. There is one small herbaceous opening, one road, one parking lot, and several streams. The current forest age distribution favors late successional stage management practices which will benefit neotropical migrant birds, bobcats, fishers, northern flying squirrels, and black bear. The combination of large saw timber oaks and heavy coniferous cover surrounding numerous small drainages provides wildlife with excellent thermal cover in addition to a good white and red oak mast crop potential. SGL 078 does feature an approximately 86-acre stand of early successional habitat which has been managed in 2.5 acre "grouse blocks" beginning in 1972 with one out of every four blocks cut every ten years or so. The early successional habitat stand will benefit grouse and cottontail rabbits. Habitat generalists such as deer, turkey, and numerous songbirds benefit greatly by the two types of forest management occurring on the game lands. Much of the adjacent private land is already cut-over or populated by housing, making this tract of late successional forest with a component of early successional local habitat oasis.

The goal for SGL 078 is to continue with late successional stage management on the entire tract except for the early successional management stands; this area will be evaluated in 2012 for future management decisions.