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. 150
LAWRENCE COUNTY

State Game Land (SGL) 150 is comprised of two Compartments consisting of 586.0 acres within the Pennsylvania Game Commission’s (PGC) Northwest Region, Wildlife Management Unit 1A. The SGL is located in a rural area approximately 7 miles northeast of New Castle, 12.5 miles east of Youngstown, OH and 61 miles northwest of Pittsburgh in Pulaski Township, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania.

SGL 150 can be accessed via state route 208, 4005 and township route 338. Compartment 2 of SGL 150 was initially purchased in 1938 and comprised 182.4 acres. Additional acreage was added over the years bringing the total for Compartment 2 to 358.8 acres. Compartment 1 was purchased in 1941 and is comprised of 227.2 acres.

SGL 150 is 78% forested, with the majority of the forest cover being northern hardwoods. The game land receives hunting pressure throughout the small and big game seasons. Deer, wild turkey, small game and waterfowl hunting are very popular. Ring-neck pheasants are stocked in reversion fields and sharcrop fields. Beaver and muskrat trappers target the wetland areas and along the Shenango River. Mink, raccoon, opossum, fox and coyote can be found and provide additional trapping opportunities.

There are no legal snowmobile trails, designated routes, or handicapped ATV trails on this game land. Fishermen, canoeists and kayakers use the SGL to access the Shenango River. Birdwatchers also use the area.

Although a mixed succession management approach has been adopted for SGL 150, invasive species in the forest understory, limited access, planned buffers, stand ages and wet soils combine to make commercial forest management problematic within the life of this plan for Compartment 2. Compartment 1 is more conducive for future timber stand improvement. Most active management will take place in the shrub and grassland areas. In Compartment 2 there are two agricultural food plots being farmed by a sharecropper. The agreement is approved on an annual basis and will be phased out in the coming years. Some of the historically agricultural fields will be allowed to revert to shrublands to increase soft mast production and increase the shrub component for small game and shrub associated Wildlife Plan species.

An abandoned railroad grade runs north and south through Compartment 2. The grade was initially part of the Erie Canal system, and then changed to a rail system. There are remnants of an old grist mill dam on the Shenango River on the northern boundary of Compartment 2.