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 reintroduce 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 propagations areas for non-game shore birds. Numerous other projects are planned on State Game Lands and other public lands needed homes for this

State Game Lands (SGL) 194 is managed by the Game Commission’s Southcentral Region and consists of 717 acres in a single tract located in Perry Township, Snyder County. The Game Lands lies between the North and West branches of the Mahantango Creek and west of Meiserville. SGL 194 is located in wildlife management unit 4B, within the greater Chesapeake Bay Watershed, and in the Appalachian Mountain section of the Ridge and Valley physiographic province of Pennsylvania. Elevations on the Game Lands range from about 440 feet above mean sea level along the North Branch Mahantango creek to 820 feet atop a ridge in the interior of the Game Lands.

Most (64%) of the SGL is forested, with the majority in deciduous forests with scattered conifer stands. The majority of remaining areas is distributed throughout the SGL as herbaceous openings including warm- and cool-season grasses, reverting herbaceous areas, orchards, and hedgerows (32%).

Access to SGL 194 is excellent. Township roads 321, 338 and 340 provide access to the northern end of the Game Lands via SR 104 at Meiserville. Township roads 338 and 340 also provide vehicular access on the southern portion via S.R. 3002 about 1.3 miles south of Meiserville. Township road 315 joins T-338 and provides access to the western part of the Game Lands. Two parking areas are maintained and ample roadside parking is available throughout the SGL along township roads. Approximately 75.5 acres of this SGL are unavailable for hunting with firearms because of structures with associated 150-yard safety zones.

SGL 194 provides a variety of hunting opportunities for deer, turkey, an occasional bear, and small game including cottontail rabbits, squirrels, and ringnecked pheasants, as well as hunting and trapping opportunities for furbearers. SGL194 has good small game habitat and is stocked with pheasants during the small-game season.

SGL 194 is used by bird watching enthusiasts; songbirds and other migratory birds use the area, as well as an occasional bald eagle. The North Branch Mahantango Creek, along the southwest edge of the Game Lands, is stocked with trout with reasonable access for those wishing to fish. It flows in a southerly direction and meets with the West Branch at the Snyder-Juniata County line. From there, the Creek travels east and south for approximately 2.1 miles, forming a portion the Snyder-Juniata County line, and empties into the Susquehanna River.

SGL 194 will be managed for mixed successional habitat conditions to benefit game and non-game wildlife. Mixed forest types will be managed to provide mast and cover as well as structure for wildlife requiring forests of all age classes. Twenty percent of the forest cover will be maintained in mature, large-sawtimber stands. The abundant herbaceous openings and orchards will be managed for small game habitats with row crop, field, and food plot cultivation, fencerows, and reverting field areas.