

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 aces 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 sixtyfive percent is used by the general public for nonhunting 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 propagations areas for nongame shore birds. Numerous other projects are planned on State Game Lands and other public

## SPORTSMEN'S RECREATION MAP



**STATE GAME LANDS** No. 323 **CENTRE COUNTY** 

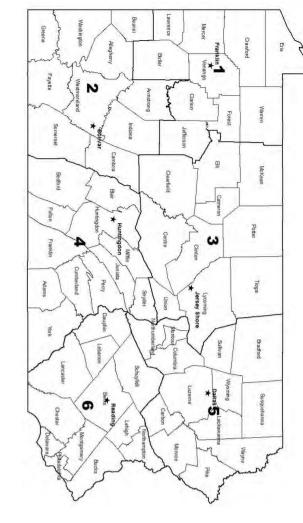
State Game Land (SGL) 323 is located in Boggs, Howard, Marion, and Spring Townships, on the Bald Eagle Mt., entirely within Centre County. All of the 3,084.6 acres sits within the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) Wildlife Management Units 2G and 4D, near the towns of Mt. Eagle, Curtain, Jacksonville and Milesburg.

Situated in two distinct compartments separated by Interstate 80 these lands are totally forested and mountainous, bounded on the east and west by agricultural and residential lands, and on the north and south by contiguous forested tracts. The game land is mostly covered with hard and softwood stands (nearly 100% of the acreage is forested). Those areas not forested consist of a small area or wildlife food plots and several large rock and boulder fields. These mountainside forests represent home to many forest dependent birds and mammals which provide excellent hunting and fur taking opportunities for the license buying public. The Game Land are also rife with spring seeps and drainages to the valley, supporting the clean waters of Bald Eagle creek, Lambs Gap, Nittany Creek and ar Army Corp of Engineer's impoundment known as Joseph Savers Dam. Topography varies with very gentle slopes to very steep side hills. The highest elevation of about 1,647 feet is on the ridge top ir Compartment 1. The lowest elevation of 700 feet is along State Route 1006 in Compartment 2.

SGL 323 has limited access. State Route 1006 provides access to Compartment 2 in the middle of the northern side where a gated road provides PGC administrative access. This road is open to the public during the hunting seasons.

Most of SGL 323 lies within Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) 2G north of I-80, but Compartment 1 south of I-80 resides within WMU 4D. The principle species hunted on all compartments are whitetailed deer, eastern wild turkey, ruffed grouse and black bear. Gray squirrel are hunted to a lesser extent where appropriate habitat exists. Small game hunting is mainly restricted to low lying terrain on these lands. Furbearer trapping opportunities include bobcat (Lynx rufus), eastern coyote, gray fox, mink, fisher, opossum, raccoon, red fox, and striped skunk. Hunting pressure is not excessive due to the relative inaccessibility and steep terrain of most of the game lands.

Hiking, bird watching, horseback riding, and mountain biking are lawful non-consumptive recreational activities that occur occasionally. This game lands is relatively small in size and is not a major attraction for these activities.



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