

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION**



**AGENDA
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA
April 9, 2019**

Bryan Burhans

Bryan Burhans
Executive Director

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania Game Commission

Agenda

The Commission Meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at 2001 Elmerton Ave., Harrisburg, PA 17110 beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

Timothy S. Layton, President
James R. Daley, Vice President
Stanley I. Knick, Jr., Secretary
Scott H. Foradora
Charlie E. Fox
Dennis R. Fredericks
Brian H. Hoover
Michael F. Mitrick

Approval of Minutes of Commission Meeting held January 29, 2019.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.4

Commentary:

To effectively manage the wildlife resources and provide hunting and trapping opportunities in this Commonwealth during the upcoming license year, the Commission is proposing to amend § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2019-2020 license year. The 2019-2020 seasons and bag limits have been amended to reflect current available scientific data, population and harvest records, field surveys and professional staff observations, as well as recommendations received from staff, organized sporting groups, members of the agricultural community and others interested in the management of the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

To provide an overall increase in black bear hunting opportunity and harvest, and to better align open seasons with dates when agricultural producers are experiencing bear damage, staff are proposing shifting the archery bear season to mid-October, and expanding the October muzzleloader and special firearms seasons (previously limited to WMUs on the periphery of the bear range) statewide. Also, to increase bear harvest and reduce regulation complexity, the length of extended firearms bear seasons is proposed to increase from 4 to 6 days in several WMUs.

For elk, addition of a September archery season and a January antlerless season are proposed to address hunter crowding issues during the regular season while simultaneously reducing elk habituation toward humans and residential areas, and improving the agency's ability to respond to elk-human conflicts and to potential future CWD infection.

Expansions of bobcat hunting and trapping opportunity to WMU 4B, and of fisher trapping opportunity to WMU 4A, are recommended in light of population indices in these units that are comparable to those in other WMUs where harvest is occurring sustainably. For beaver, an increase in the season bag limit from 20 to 40 is recommended for WMUs 2A and 2B in response to increasing nuisance complaints in these units. For porcupine, a reduction in season length is proposed to ensure population sustainability given significant uncertainty about the impacts of harvest on this species.

To increase hunting opportunities for younger deer hunters, a Saturday opener for rifle deer season is being proposed. Changing the historic opening day from the Monday following Thanksgiving to the Saturday following Thanksgiving represents a significant change in tradition. However, retaining our younger hunters is important to preserving our hunting heritage. By shifting the opening day to a Saturday this change will

create more hunting opportunity by selecting a day which better fits the working/school schedule of youth and young adults. Changes are also proposed for small game and turkey season closing dates to accommodate the one-day shift in the opening of deer rifle season.

Action:

DRAFT

ANNEX "A"

(SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)

**2019-2020 OPEN HUNTING AND FURTAKING SEASONS, DAILY LIMIT,
FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT AND SEASON LIMIT
OPEN SEASON INCLUDES FIRST AND LAST DATES LISTED**

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species) <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required junior license	Oct. 5	Oct. 19	6	18
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species)	Oct. 19 and Dec. 16 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 Dec. 24 Feb. 29, 2020	6	18
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Oct. 19 and Dec. 16	Nov. 29 Dec. 24	2	6
<i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i> – <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required junior license	Oct. 5	Oct. 19	4	12
<i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i>	Oct. 19 and Dec. 16 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 Dec. 24 Feb. 29, 2020	4	12
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i> – There is no open season for the taking of pheasants in the Hegins-Gratz or Franklin County wild pheasant recovery areas.				

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i> <i>Eligible Junior Hunters only</i> , with or without the required junior license	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	2	6
WMUs 4E and 5A – <i>Male only</i>				
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 5B, 5C, and 5D - <i>Male or female</i>				
Central Susquehanna Wild Pheasant Recovery Area – <i>Male only</i>	As authorized by the Executive Order			
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i>	Oct. 26	Nov. 29	2	6
WMUs 4E and 5A – <i>Male only</i>	Dec. 16	Dec. 24		
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 5B, 5C, and 5D - <i>Male or female</i>	Dec. 26	Feb. 29, 2020		
<i>Bobwhite Quail</i>	Oct. 19	Nov. 29	8	24
	Dec. 16	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	Feb. 29, 2020		
<i>Hare (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hare</i>	Dec. 26	Jan. 1, 2020	1	3
<i>Woodchuck (Groundhog)</i>	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer season(s). Hunting on Sundays is prohibited.		Unlimited	

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Turkey, Fall - Male or Female</i>			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow & Arrow only)	Nov. 2 and Nov. 28	Nov. 22 and Nov. 29		
WMU 1B	Nov. 2	Nov. 9		
WMUs 1A, 2A, 4A and 4B	Nov. 2 and Nov. 28	Nov. 9 and Nov. 29		
WMUs 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C, 4D and 4E	Nov. 2 and Nov. 28	Nov. 16 and Nov. 29		
WMU 2C	Nov. 2 and Nov. 28	Nov. 22 and Nov. 29		
WMU 5A	Nov. 7	Nov. 9		
WMU 5B	Nov. 5	Nov. 7		
WMUs 5C and 5D	Closed to fall turkey hunting			
<i>Turkey, Spring ¹ Bearded Bird only, Eligible Junior Hunters only, with the required junior license</i>	Apr. 25, 2020	Apr. 25, 2020	1	1
<i>Turkey, Spring ¹ Bearded Bird only</i>	May 2, 2020 and May 18, 2020	May 16, 2020 and May 30, 2020	1	2
			May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to 12 noon	
			May be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset	

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Except as further restricted by this chapter, the seasons, bag limits, hunting hours and hunting regulations for migratory game birds shall conform to regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§ 703-712) as published in the *Federal Register* on or about February 28 of each year.

Exceptions:

(a) Hunting hours in § 141.4 (relating to hunting hours).

(b) Nontoxic shot as approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is required for use statewide in hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl.

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Crow</i> (Hunting permitted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	July 5	Apr. 12, 2020	Unlimited	
<i>Starling and English Sparrow</i>	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons.		Unlimited	

FALCONRY

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species)	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	6	18
<i>Quail</i>	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	8	24
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	2	6
<i>Cottontail Rabbits</i>	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	4	12
<i>Snowshoe or Varying Hare</i>	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	1	3
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant - Male and Female</i> - (Combined)	Sept. 2	Mar. 31, 2020	2	6

Migratory Game Bird - Seasons and bag limits shall be in accordance with Federal regulations.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
Deer, Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) ² With the required archery license WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 21 and Dec. 26	Nov. 29 Jan. 25, 2020	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) ² With the required archery license WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B	Oct. 5 and Dec. 26	Nov. 16 Jan. 11, 2020	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only) With the required muzzleloading license	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only) Only Junior and Senior License Holders, ³ Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces or United States Coast Guard	Oct. 24	Oct. 26	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Nov 30	Dec. 14	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered only) ² WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B	Nov 30	Dec. 6	One antlered deer.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² With the required muzzleloading license WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B	Dec. 26	Jan. 11, 2020	One antlered or one antlerless deer, plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² With the required muzzleloading license WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 25, 2020	One antlered or one antlerless deer, plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

WHITE-TAILED DEER – (Continued)

Season	Species	First Day	Last Day	Limit
	<i>Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless)</i> Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties	Dec. 26	Jan. 25, 2020	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
	<i>Deer, Antlerless</i> (Letterkenny Army Depot, Franklin County and New Cumberland Army Depot, York County and Fort Detrick, Raven Rock Site, Adams County)	Hunting is permitted on days established by the United States Department of the Army.		An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

BLACK BEAR

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
<i>Bear, Archery</i> ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 21	Nov. 29	1
<i>Bear, Archery</i> ⁴ WMU 5B	Oct. 5	Nov. 16	1
<i>Bear, Archery</i> ⁴ WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Oct. 28	Nov. 9	1
<i>Bear, Muzzleloader</i> ⁴ (Statewide)	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	1
<i>Bear, Special firearms</i> ⁴ Only Junior and Senior License Holders ³ , Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, or in the United States Coast Guard (Statewide)	Oct. 24	Oct. 26	1
<i>Bear, Regular Firearms</i> ⁴ (Statewide)	Nov. 23	Nov. 27	1
<i>Bear, Extended firearms</i> ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D	Nov 30	Dec. 14	1
<i>Bear, Extended firearms</i> ⁴ WMUs 1B, 2C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Nov 30	Dec. 7	1

ELK

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
<i>Elk, Special Conservation Tag⁵ and Special-License Tag⁵ (Antlered and Antlerless)</i>	Sept. 2	Nov. 9	1
<i>Elk, Archery⁵</i>	Sept. 14	Sept. 28	1
<i>Elk, Regular⁵ (Antlered and Antlerless)</i>	Nov. 4	Nov. 9	1
<i>Elk, Extended⁵ (Antlered and Antlerless)</i>	Nov. 11	Nov. 16	1
<i>Elk, Late⁵ (Antlerless only)</i>	Jan. 4, 2020	Jan. 11, 2020	1

FUR TAKING - TRAPPING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Mink and Muskrat</i>	Nov. 23	Jan. 12, 2020	Unlimited	
<i>Beaver</i>	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2020		
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B and 3C (Combined)			20	40
WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C and 5D (Combined)			20	20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B (Combined)			5	5
<i>Coyote, Fox, Opossum, Raccoon, Striped Skunk and Weasel</i>	Oct. 27	Feb. 23, 2020	Unlimited	
<i>Coyote and Fox</i> Use of cable restraint devices authorized with required certification	Dec. 26	Feb. 23, 2020	Unlimited	
<i>Bobcat, with required bobcat permit</i> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 21	Jan. 12, 2020	1	1
<i>Fisher, with required fisher permit</i> WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 21	Jan. 2, 2020	1	1

<i>River Otter, with required otter permit</i> WMUs 3C & 3D	Feb. 15, 2020	Feb. 22, 2020	1	1
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FUR TAKING - HUNTING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Coyote - (Outside of any big game season)</i>	May be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker's license.		Unlimited	
<i>Coyote - (During any big game season)</i>	May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.		Unlimited	
<i>Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel</i>	No closed season.			
<i>Raccoon and Fox</i>	Oct. 26	Feb. 22, 2020	Unlimited	
<i>Bobcat, with required bobcat permit</i> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Jan. 11, 2020	Feb. 5, 2020	1	1
<i>Porcupine</i>	Oct. 12	Feb. 1, 2020	3	10

No open seasons on other wild birds or wild mammals.

¹ Only persons who possess a special wild turkey license as provided for in section 2709 of the act (relating to license costs and fees) may take a second spring gobbler during the hunting license year; all other persons, including mentored youth hunters, may take only one spring gobbler. A maximum of 2 spring gobblers per license year may be taken by any combination of licenses or exceptions for mentored youth.

² Only one antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

³ Includes residents and nonresident license holders who have reached or will reach their 65th birthday in the year of the application for the license and hold a valid adult license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).

⁴ Only one bear may be taken during the hunting license year with the required bear license.

⁵ Only one elk may be taken during the hunting license year with the required elk license.

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.28.

Commentary:

Commission staff have completed a final report on the Wild Pheasant Recovery Area (WPRAs) project and are recommending several changes to WPRAs status and regulations based on the findings of the report. The Hegins-Gratz Valley WPRAs was established by the Commission in 2010. In 2011, 300 wild pheasants were trapped and transferred to the WPRAs and annual population and habitat monitoring have continued through 2018. Population surveys show that current wild pheasant numbers in this WPRAs are very low, and much lower than the initial population at the conclusion of releases. Staff have concluded that due to habitat conditions a huntable wild pheasant population is not achievable or sustainable on this WPRAs, and that in keeping with guidelines established in the Pennsylvania Ring-necked Pheasant Management Plan for unsuccessful WPRAs, the Hegins-Gratz Valley WPRAs should be dissolved and the area should be re-opened to either-sex pheasant hunting and to the stocking of game farm pheasants. Boundary changes are recommended for both the Central Susquehanna and Franklin County WPRAs, reducing the size of each WPRAs to better represent existing populations of wild pheasants. Finally, removal of the dog training restriction within WPRAs is recommended as there is low likelihood of negative impacts from this activity on now-established pheasant populations.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter B. SMALL GAME

§ 141.28. Wild pheasant recovery areas.

(a) *Definition.* For the purpose of this section, the phrase “wild pheasant recovery area” (WPRAs) includes and is limited to the following geographic locations.

(1) *Central Susquehanna WPRAs.* Portions of WMU 4E in Northumberland, Montour and Columbia Counties, bounded and described as follows. Beginning in the southwestern extent of the WPRAs at the intersection of Interstate 80 and Interstate 180, proceed north on Interstate 180 for approximately 7.2 miles to the intersection of Hughes Road. The boundary follows Hughes Road east for 0.2 mile to Susquehanna Trail. Follow Susquehanna Trail south for 0.2 mile to Schmidt Road. Follow Schmidt Road for 1.6 miles to Miller Road. Follow Miller Road east for 1.1 miles to intersection of Hockey Hill Road. Go right on Hockey Hill Road then left onto Pugmore Lane. Follow Pugmore Lane for 0.7 mile to Harrison Road. The boundary follows Harrison Road south for 0.7 mile to Showers Road. Follow Showers Road for 1.2 miles east to intersection of Gearhart Road. Turn right on Gearhart Road and go south for 0.6 mile to the intersection of Hickory Road. The boundary follows Hickory Road east for 0.6 mile then left onto Mingle Road for 0.9 mile until rejoining Hickory Road for another 0.8 mile to the

intersection of Muncy Exchange Road. The boundary follows Muncy Exchange Road south for 1.4 miles to bridge over the West Branch of Chillisquaque Creek near the intersection of State Highway 44. The boundary follows the West Branch of Chillisquaque Creek south for approximately 2.1 miles to the bridge on Arrowhead Road. The boundary follows Arrowhead Road west for 0.8 mile to the intersection of State Highway 54. Follow State Highway 54 south for 2.6 miles to the intersection of State Highway 254. Follow State Highway 254 west for 6.6 miles to the intersection of ~~[State Highway 44. Follow State Highway 44 south for 1.1 miles to the intersection of State Highway 642. Follow State Highway 642 southwest for 2.3 miles to the intersection of Billhime Road. Turn right onto Billhime Road and go 1.1 miles to the intersection of East Diehl Road. Turn left on East Diehl Road then right onto Cameltown Hill Road. Follow Cameltown Hill Road for 1 mile to the intersection of Blee Hill Road. The boundary follows Blee Hill Road northwestward for 0.6 mile to the intersection of Hillside Drive. Turn left onto Hillside Drive and follow west for 3.2 miles until State Highway 54. Cross State Highway 54 onto Steckermill Road and go 0.4 mile to the intersection of Keefer Mill Road. Turn right onto Keefer Mill Road and follow north for 0.8 mile to the intersection Mexico Road. Turn right on Mexico Road for 0.1 mile and then turn left onto Keefer Mill Road for 0.6 mile to the intersection of State Highway 254. The boundary follows State Highway 254 west for 5.5 miles to the intersection of Interstate 80. Follow Interstate 80 west for 3.4 miles to the intersection Interstate 180 and the point of origin]~~ Interstate 80. Follow Interstate 80 west for 3.4 miles to the intersection of Interstate 180 and the point of origin.

(2) ~~[Hegins-Gratz Valley WPRAs. That portion of WMU 4E in Schuylkill and Dauphin Counties from Matterstown Road (Rt. 1007) to PA Rt. 901 at Taylorsville. The WPRAs is bounded on the north by the Mahantango Creek. Beginning at the town of Pillow in Dauphin County, proceeding east on Market Street (Rt. 1026) to the Mahantango Creek, which is the Northumberland and Dauphin County border until entering Schuylkill County at Klingerstown. Continuing northeast along the Mahantango Creek in Schuylkill County to Taylorsville Road (Rt. 4039) at Haas, to Taylorsville and then proceeding south on PA Rt. 901. Proceeding south and southeast on PA Rt. 901 to I 81. Proceeding southwest on I 81 and then west on PA Rt. 25, then from PA Rt. 25, proceeding south and west on Dell Road and then northwest and west on Pine Drive (State Hwy. 4009), continuing west on Pine Drive, T593 and north on T592 to Pine Creek. The southern boundary then follows Pine Creek west along the northern side of Broad Mountain to Spring Glen. From Spring Glen, continuing west on PA Rt. 25, crossing into Dauphin County to Gratz, then proceeding southwest from Gratz on Specktown Road (State Hwy. 1014) to South Crossroads Road (PA Rt. 1009). Proceeding south on South Crossroads Road (PA Rt. 1009) to PA Rt. 209 and southwest to Elizabethville. From Elizabethville continue west on Main Street (PA Rt. 209), then turn north onto Botts Road (T462). At the first intersection, turn north onto Feidt Road (T461), then turn east onto West Matterstown Road (Rt. 4008), turn north onto Matterstown Road (Rt. 1007). Turn right or east onto Berrysburg Road (PA Rt. 25) which turns into Market St. Turn left or north onto Lykens St. Turn right or east onto Mountain Road (T639). Turn left or north on PA Rt. 225 into Pillow on PA Rt. 225, ending at Market St. (Rt. 1026).~~

(3) ~~Franklin County WPRAs. That portion of WMUs 4A and 5A in Franklin County [from PA Rt. 30 on the northern border to the Pennsylvania/Maryland state border on the southern border, and from Cove Mountain on the western border to the towns of Laurich and Williamson and the Conococheague Creek on the eastern border. The WPRAs is bounded on the north by PA Rt. 30 (Lincoln Highway). Beginning at the town of Fort Loudon at the intersection of PA Rt. 30 (Lincoln Highway) and PA Rt. 75, proceed east on PA Rt. 30 (Lincoln Highway),~~

through St. Thomas and continue east to Laurich. Just east of Laurich, proceed south along Back Creek to SR 3012 (Jack Road). Proceed west along SR 3012 (Jack Road), then south along Weber Road. Continue south and southwest along Weber Road to the intersection of Weber, Grapevine and Jacks Mill Roads. Proceed southwest along Grapevine Road and then northwest to intersection with SR 3013. Turn south onto SR 3013 (St. Thomas Williamson Road) and then west onto State Rt. 995. Proceed west and then south on State Rt. 995 through Williamson to the West Branch of the Conococheague Creek (northeast of Welsh Run). Proceed along the West Branch of the Conococheague Creek to the confluence with Conococheague Creek. Follow the Conococheague Creek south to the Pennsylvania/Maryland state border. Proceed west along the Pennsylvania/Maryland state border to State Rt. 456. Proceed northeast along State Rt. 456 to State Rt. 16. Proceed east on State Rt. 16 to Mountain Road. Proceed northeast on Mountain Road to State Rt. 75. Proceed northwest on State Rt. 75 to the intersection of State Rt. 75 and State Rt. 30 at Fort Loudon] bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the town of Mercersburg at the intersection of PA Rt. 16 (N. Main St.) and Johnstons Ln., proceed 1.9 miles west on Johnstons Ln. At the intersection of Johnstons Ln. and Charlestown Rd., proceed 0.7 miles due west following the Montgomery/Peters Township lines to the top of Cove Mountain. Proceed south along the Montgomery/Warren Township lines following the spine of Cove Mountain 7.9 miles to its intersection with cleared gas line utility right-of-way. Proceed 4.3 miles northeast along utility right-of-way to its intersection with Blairs Valley Rd. Proceed 1 mile south on Blairs Valley Rd. to the intersection with Hunter Rd. Proceed 2.5 miles east on Hunter Rd. to the intersection with Rt. 75 (Fort Loudon Rd.). Proceed across Rt. 75 onto Garnes Rd. and follow 2.6 miles northeast to the intersection with Rt. 416 (Mercersburg Rd.). Proceed 2.4 miles north on Rt. 416 to the intersection with Rt. 16 (Buchanan Trail West). Proceed 2.7 miles northwest on Rt. 16 through the town of Mercersburg to the intersection with Johnstons Ln. at point of origin.

(b) *Prohibitions.* It is unlawful to:

(1) Release artificially propagated pheasants any time within any area designated as a WPR.

(2) ~~[Train dogs in any manner from March 1 through July 31 within any area designated as a WPR.~~

(3) Hunt pheasants within any area designated as a WPR, except the Director may authorize limited youth pheasant hunting opportunities by Commission-issued access permit in the Central Susquehanna WPR. During any year youth pheasant hunting opportunities are authorized in the Central Susquehanna WPR, the Director will establish the number of hunting access permits to be issued, a manner of distribution for a limited number of access permits to be raffled off by an organization promoting pheasant recovery efforts within this Commonwealth, and designate one or more pheasant hunt zones within the WPR prior to the opening of the earliest established youth pheasant season. The Director or a designee will establish the application deadline and the date, time and location for the random drawing of applications for the issuance of any remaining limited youth pheasant hunting access permits within the Central Susquehanna WPR. Limited youth pheasant hunting access permits are not transferrable. A pheasant hunting access permit shall be signed and carried on person when hunting or taking pheasants within the Central Susquehanna WPR.

Action:

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.4

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.4 to replace the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2019-2020 hunting/trapping license year.

Action:

DRAFT

ANNEX “A”

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Appendix G. Hunting Hours

§ 141.4. Hunting hours.

Except as otherwise provided, wild birds and mammals may be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

* * * * *

*(See Pennsylvania Meridian Map, Hunting Hours and
Migratory Game Bird Hunting Hours Tables)*

DRAFT

**HUNTING HOURS TABLE
FOR JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020**

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
July 1 – July 6	5:08	9:02	Jan. 5 – 11	6:53	5:25
July 7 – 13	5:13	8:59	Jan. 12 – 18	6:52	5:26
July 14 – 20	5:18	8:55	Jan. 19 – 25	6:49	5:34
July 21 – 27	5:24	8:49	Jan. 26 – Feb. 1	6:44	5:42
July 28 – Aug. 3	5:31	8:42	Feb. 2 – 8	6:38	5:51
Aug. 4 – 10	5:37	8:34	Feb. 9 – 15	6:31	5:59
Aug. 11 – 17	5:44	8:25	Feb. 16 – 22	6:23	6:07
Aug. 18 – 24	5:51	8:15	Feb. 23 – 29	6:13	6:15
Aug. 25 – 31	5:57	8:04	Mar. 1 – Mar. 7	6:03	6:23
Sept. 1 – 7	6:04	7:53	Mar. 8 – 14 * Begins	6:52	7:31
Sept. 8 – 14	6:10	7:41	Mar. 15 – 21	6:41	7:38
Sept. 15 – 21	6:17	7:30	Mar. 22 – 28	6:30	7:45
Sept. 22 – 28	6:24	7:18	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:19	7:52
Sept. 29 – Oct. 5	6:31	7:07	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	7:59
Oct. 6 – 12	6:38	6:56	Apr. 12 – 18	5:57	8:07
Oct. 13 – 19	6:45	6:46	Apr. 19 – 25	5:46	8:14
Oct. 20 – 26	6:53	6:36	Apr. 26 – May 2	5:37	8:21
Oct. 27 – Nov. 2	7:00	6:27	May 3 – May 9	5:28	8:28
Nov. 3 – 9 ** Ends	6:08	5:20	May 10 – 16	5:20	8:35
Nov. 10 – 16	6:16	5:14	May 17 – 23	5:13	8:41
Nov. 17 – 23	6:24	5:09	May 24 – 30	5:08	8:47
Nov. 24 – 30	6:32	5:06	May 31 – June 6	5:04	8:53
Dec. 1 – 7	6:39	5:05	June 7 – 13	5:02	8:57
Dec. 8 – 14	6:44	5:05	June 14 – 20	5:02	9:01
Dec. 15 – 21	6:49	5:06	June 21 – 27	5:04	9:03
Dec. 22 – 28	6:51	5:09	June 28 – June 30	5:08	9:03
Dec. 29 – Jan. 4	6:53	5:19	*Daylight Saving Time Begins * -Ends**		

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING HOURS TABLE
FOR JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020**

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
July 1 – July 6	5:08	8:32	Jan. 5 – 11	6:53	4:55
July 7 – 13	5:13	8:29	Jan. 12 – 18	6:52	4:56
July 14 – 20	5:18	8:25	Jan. 19 – 25	6:49	5:04
July 21 – 27	5:24	8:19	Jan. 26 – Feb. 1	6:44	5:12
July 28 – Aug. 3	5:31	8:12	Feb. 2 – 8	6:38	5:21
Aug. 4 – 10	5:37	8:04	Feb. 9 – 15	6:31	5:29
Aug. 11 – 17	5:44	7:55	Feb. 16 – 22	6:23	5:37
Aug. 18 – 24	5:51	7:45	Feb. 23 – 29	6:13	5:45
Aug. 25 – 31	5:57	7:34	Mar. 1 – Mar. 7	6:03	5:53
Sept. 1 – 7	6:04	7:23	Mar. 8 – 14 * Begins	6:52	7:01
Sept. 8 – 14	6:10	7:11	Mar. 15 – 21	6:41	7:08
Sept. 15 – 21	6:17	7:00	Mar. 22 – 28	6:30	7:15
Sept. 22 – 28	6:24	6:48	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:19	7:22
Sept. 29 – Oct. 5	6:31	6:37	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	7:29
Oct. 6 – 12	6:38	6:26	Apr. 12 – 18	5:57	7:37
Oct. 13 – 19	6:45	6:16	Apr. 19 – 25	5:46	7:44
Oct. 20 – 26	6:53	6:06	Apr. 26 – May 2	5:37	7:51
Oct. 27 – Nov. 2	7:00	5:57	May 3 – May 9	5:28	7:58
Nov. 3 – 9 ** Ends	6:08	4:50	May 10 – 16	5:20	8:05
Nov. 10 – 16	6:16	4:44	May 17 – 23	5:13	8:11
Nov. 17 – 23	6:24	4:39	May 24 – 30	5:08	8:17
Nov. 24 – 30	6:32	4:36	May 31 – June 6	5:04	8:23
Dec. 1 – 7	6:39	4:35	June 7 – 13	5:02	8:27
Dec. 8 – 14	6:44	4:35	June 14 – 20	5:02	8:31
Dec. 15 – 21	6:49	4:36	June 21 – 27	5:04	8:33
Dec. 22 – 28	6:51	4:39	June 28 – June 30	5:08	8:33
Dec. 29 – Jan. 4	6:53	4:49	*Daylight Saving Time Begins * -Ends**		

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.20.

Commentary:

Requirements for the wearing of fluorescent orange protective material within Pennsylvania are complex and make up a significant number of violations detected each year by State Game Wardens. On a national scale, the requirements for fluorescent orange protective material vary from state-to-state. Those regulations include 11 states, such as Texas and New York, which do not require any fluorescent orange protective material to be worn; 10 states only requiring it to be worn while hunting big game; 20 states only requiring it to be worn when hunting big game with a firearm; and 9 states, including Pennsylvania, having a mixture of instances in which the wearing of fluorescent orange is required. The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.20 (relating to protective material required) to eliminate the requirements for the wearing of fluorescent orange protective material for archery deer seasons, archery bear seasons and fall turkey seasons, including where these seasons overlap with other firearms seasons. While representing a significant reduction to the current requirements for fluorescent orange protective material requirements, the proposed changes will still maintain Pennsylvania's position as one of the more restrictive states in the nation.

Action:

ANNEX "A":

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§141.20. Protective material required.

(a) The following requirements apply:

(1) General rule. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), it is unlawful to hunt or assist to hunt game or wildlife or move to or from a hunting location, from 1 hour before legal hunting hours to 1 hour after legal hunting hours outside of a motorized vehicle, at any time without wearing a minimum of 250 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange-colored material on the head, chest and back combined so that it is visible in a 360° arc. This shall include going to or from a hunting location before or after legal shooting hours. Except as provided in subsection (b)(2), camouflage orange clothing is lawful provided it contains the minimum amount of fluorescent orange-colored material.

(2) Additional requirements. It is unlawful to hunt during any firearms season for deer, elk or bear from any blind meeting the requirements in section 2308(b)(3) of the act (relating to unlawful devices and methods) without placing a minimum of 100 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange-colored material within 15 feet from the blind so it is visible in a 360° arc.

(b) Permitted acts. It is lawful to:

(1) Hunt without wearing daylight fluorescent orange-colored material for applicable wildlife during the following seasons:

(i) All crow seasons.

(ii) All dove seasons.

(iii) All waterfowl seasons.

(iv) All falconry small game seasons.

(v) All flintlock muzzleloading deer seasons.

(vi) All archery deer seasons.

(vii) All archery bear seasons.

(viii) All furbearer seasons, except coyote seasons.

(ix) All coyote seasons, except during the respective portion of any coyote season that runs concurrent with the legal hunting hours of any special firearms or

regular firearms seasons for deer, bear or elk within each wildlife management unit, when the requirements of subsection (a) remain applicable.

(x) All turkey seasons.

(2) Hunt for woodchucks during any woodchuck season while wearing a hat made of solid daylight fluorescent orange-colored material on the head only.

(c) A person who violates this section shall be subject to the penalties as provided in the act.

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PROPOSED RULE MAKING

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 141.63, 141.67 and 141.68

Commentary: The Commission is proposing a number of amendments to §§ 141.63, 141.67 and 141.68 to provide greater clarity in common trapping terminology and increased understanding in what trapping devices are permitted within the Commonwealth. To this end, the Commission is proposing to amend § 141.63 to add definitions to the terms body-gripping trap, cage or box trap and leg-hold trap.

The Pennsylvania Trapper's Association has also requested that the Commission amend the definition of a snare to establish consistent definitions for the locks that are legal for use for cable restraints and snares. Cable restraint regulations and definitions were developed to allow live restraint of canids, whereas regulations and definitions for snares were developed to allow for live restraint or kill sets for beaver and otter. Current language in § 141.63 requires that a snare be "equipped with a mechanical sliding metal release lock and that "Cable restraints must be equipped with an approved lock." The "approved" locks are listed and visually represented in § 141.66 (g). The current list of approved locks is based on research conducted during the development of Best Management Practices for Trapping in the United States. The change is intended to expand the number and types of locks available to trappers using snares. Furthermore, these changes will provide consistency in the legal lock requirements for cable restraints and snares.

Cage or box traps are efficient, selective, and humane tools for harvesting furbearers. Section 2361 of the act references the Commission's authority to approve cage or box type traps for taking furbearers, but their permitted use has not been asserted in the trapping regulations. The Commission is proposing to amend §§ 141.67 and 141.68 to specifically add cage or box traps, as well as other currently accepted trapping devices, to the list of approved devices.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter D. FURBEARERS

§141.63. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions contained in the act and this part, the following words, when used in the enforcement of section 2361 of the act (relating to unlawful acts concerning taking of furbearers) have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Artificial cubby—A baited enclosure constructed of natural or artificial material that is designed to house and corral a furbearer into a body-gripping trap.

Body-gripping trap—A jawed trap device designed to capture and kill a furbearer by compression of the neck or body through the operation of one or two rotating, spring-loaded jaws activated by a trigger.

Cable restraint—A galvanized stranded steel cable with a minimum diameter of 3/32 inches. The cable must be constructed of either 7 bundles comprised of 7 wires per bundle, 7 bundles comprised of 19 wires per bundle or 1 bundle comprised of 19 wires. The cable may not exceed 7 feet in length from the anchor point to the lock contacting the fully closed loop stop, must be equipped with at least one swivel device (which allows for 360° rotation) between the loop and the anchor and must have stops affixed to the cable to ensure that the circumference of the cable which makes up the loop may not be greater than 38 inches when fully open, or less than 8 inches when fully closed. Cable restraints must be equipped with an approved lock. The lock may not be constructed with moving parts. A cable restraint must include a breakaway device affixed between the lock and cable or at the end of the cable that is rated at 375 pounds or less. The cable must be maintained in good condition so that all components operate properly.

Cage or box trap—An enclosure trap designed to capture and restrain a live furbearer by confinement in a cage or box through the operation and closure of a door or portal activated by a trigger.

Foot encapsulating trap—A device that has all triggering and restraining mechanisms enclosed by a housing which, once set, allows access to the triggering mechanism through a single opening not to exceed 2 inches in diameter or diagonally and is anchored by a swivel-mounted anchoring mechanism.

Leg-hold trap—A jawed trap device designed to capture and restrain a live furbearer by the foot through operation of one or two rotating, spring-loaded jaws activated by a trigger.

Marsh, pond or dam—A standing body of water.

Snare—A looped ~~galvanized~~ galvanized or stainless stranded steel cable 3/32 inches in diameter equipped with ~~[a mechanical sliding metal release lock]~~ an approved lock listed in section 141.66(g) (relating to cable restraints). A metal ferrule shall be crimped on the cable to prevent the snare loop from closing to a circumference less than 7 inches.

Waterway or watercourse—A riverine system that contains water which includes the semi-permanent flooded area.

§ 141.67. Furbearer seasons.

(a) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt or take furbearers during any furtaking season with the following devices:

(1) A manually operated or semiautomatic rifle or manually operated handgun that propels single-projectile ammunition.

(2) A manually operated or semiautomatic, centerfire shotgun or muzzleloading shotgun. The firearm must be 10 gauge or less, that propels single-projectile ammunition or multiple-projectile shotgun ammunition not larger than # 4 buckshot. The centerfire shotgun's magazine capacity may not exceed two rounds. The shotgun's total aggregate ammunition capacity may not exceed three rounds.

(3) A muzzleloading rifle or handgun that propels single-projectile ammunition.

(4) A bow and arrow.

(5) A crossbow and bolt.

(6) A manually operated or semiautomatic air rifle or manually operated air handgun .22 caliber or larger that propels single-projectile pellet or bullet ammunition. BB ammunition is not authorized.

(7) A leg-hold trap authorized under section 2361(a)(8) of the act (relating to unlawful acts concerning taking of furbearers).

(8) A body-gripping trap authorized under section 2361(a)(11) of the act (relating to unlawful acts concerning taking of furbearers).

(9) A cable restraint device authorized by section 141.66 (relating to cable restraints).

(10) A snare authorized by section 141.62 (a) (relating to beaver and otter trapping).

(11) A cage or box trap authorized by section 2361(a)(17) of the act (relating to relating to unlawful acts concerning taking of furbearers).

(b) *Prohibitions.* While hunting furbearers during any furbearer hunting or trapping season, it is unlawful to:

(1) Use or possess multiple-projectile shotgun ammunition larger than # 4 buckshot, except as authorized under section 2525 of the act (relating to possession of firearm for protection of self or others).

(2) Use or possess a device or ammunition not provided for in the act or in this section, except as authorized under section 2525 of the act.

(3) Use any firearm, other than authorized in this paragraph, to dispatch legally trapped furbearers during the overlap with the regular or special firearms deer seasons:

(i) A manually operated or semiautomatic rimfire rifle or manually operated rimfire handgun .22 caliber or less.

(ii) A manually operated or semiautomatic air rifle or manually operated air handgun between .177 and .22 caliber, inclusive, that propels single-projectile pellet or bullet ammunition. BB ammunition is not authorized.

§ 141.68. Prohibited devices.

It is unlawful to take furbearers through the use of the following devices;

- (1) Fish hooks, snagging hooks or any other hooks of similar design.
- (2) Implements that are not lawful traps, snares, cable restraints, firearms, bows or crossbows.

Action:

DRAFT

D.

Commentary:

Action:

DRAFT

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

REAL ESTATE

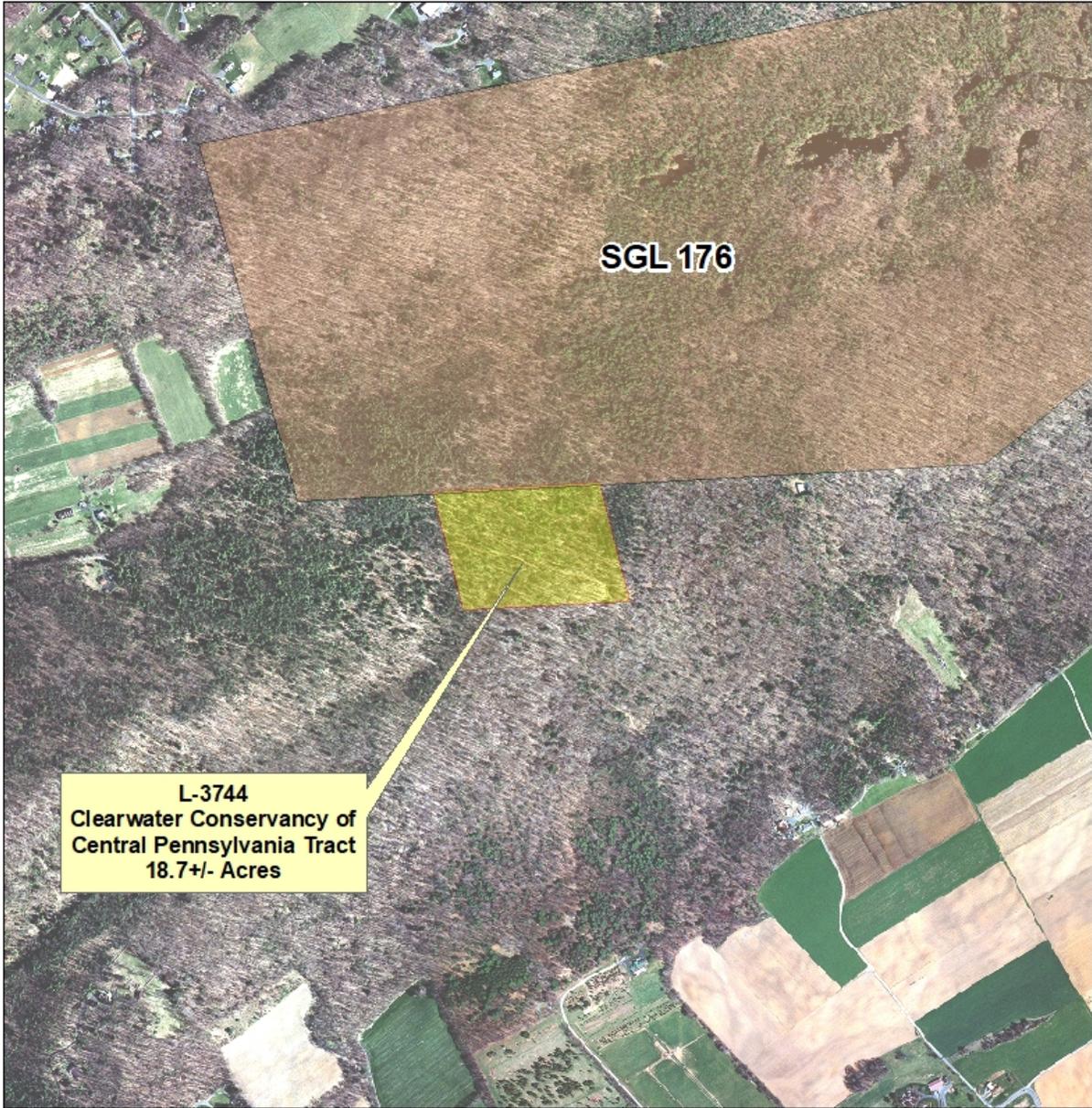
A. Acquisition

Contract No. L-3744, State Game Land No. 176, Centre County

Commentary: Clearwater Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania is offering 18.7+/- acres of land in Halfmoon Township, Centre County, adjoining State Game Land No. 176 (Exhibit RED 1). The option price is \$60,000 lump sum to be paid with escrowed funds from a prior land exchange on State Game Land No. 176 with Pennsylvania State University and will require review and approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The tract is a mixed dry oak forest-type interspersed with hemlock, white pine, and pitch pine. The understory is minimal due to the mature closed canopy. Access is from existing State Game Land No. 176.

Action:

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L-3744
Clearwater Conservancy of
Central Pennsylvania Tract
18.7+/- Acres



0 375 750 1,500 2,250 3,000
Feet

Exhibit RED 1
State Game Land No. 176

L-3744
Clearwater Conservancy of
Central Pennsylvania Tract
18.7+/- Acres

Halfmoon Township
Centre County
Northcentral Region

Contract No. L-3745, State Game Land No. 176, Centre County

Commentary:

Norman R. Sunday Jr. and Linda S. Carter are offering 62.4+/- acres of land in Halfmoon and Ferguson Townships, Centre County, adjoining State Game Land No. 176 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$400,000 lump sum to be paid with escrowed funds from a prior land exchange on State Game Land No. 176 with Pennsylvania State University and will require review and approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The tract is a mixed dry oak forest-type interspersed with white pine and pitch pine. Approximately six acres are in forest openings with another 13 acres in shrubland and reverting old fields. A small one-story concrete block cabin is located on the property and the owners have requested to keep the appliances, furnace, and wood stove. An electric transmission line bisects the western corner of the parcel. The property is located off Remington Lane which is accessed from West Gatesburg Road.

Action:

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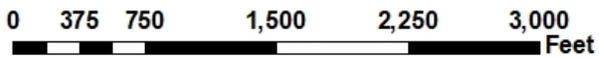
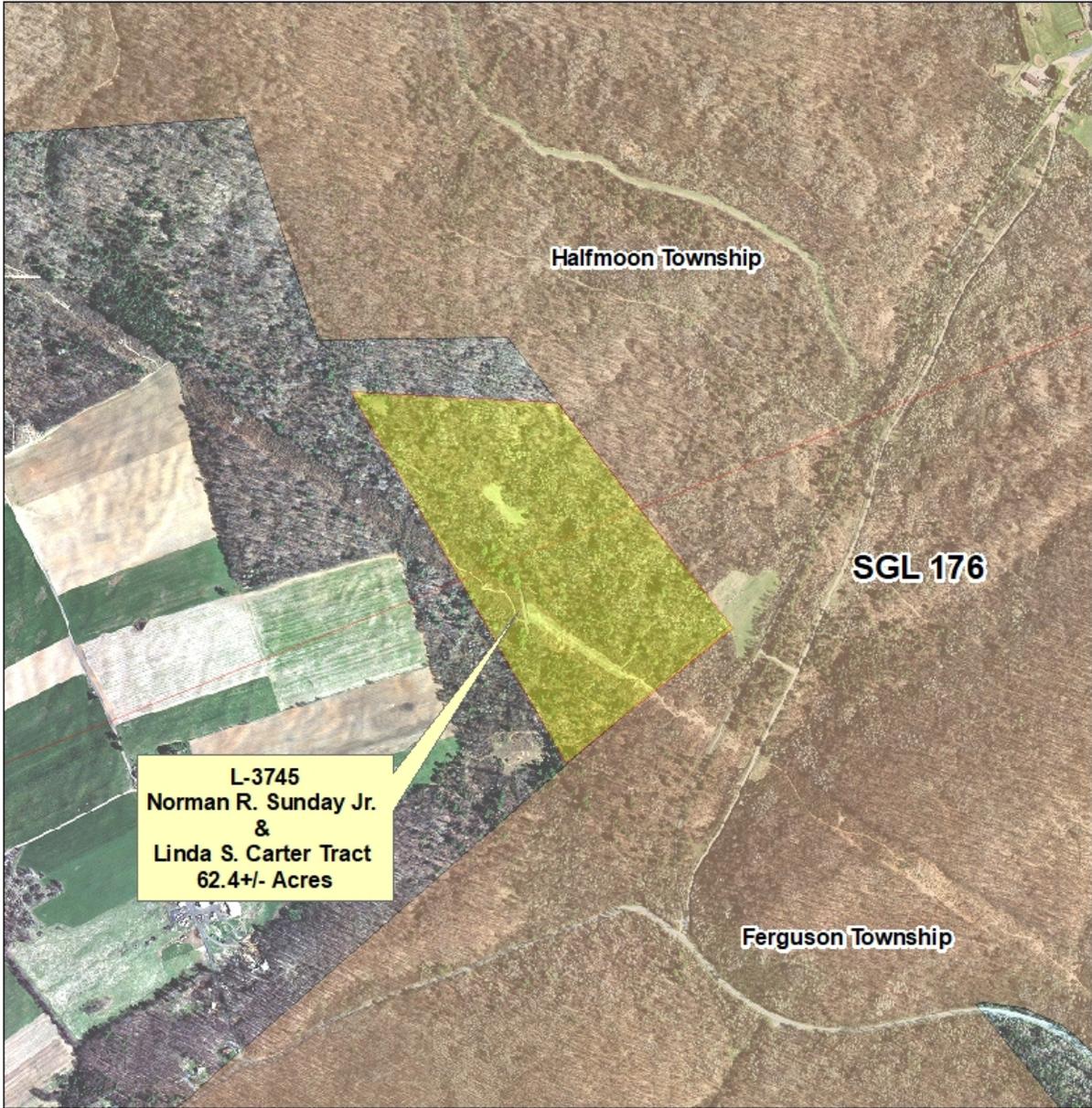


Exhibit RED 2
State Game Land No. 176
L-3745
Norman R. Sunday Jr.
&
Linda S. Carter Tract
62.4+/- Acres
Halfmoon & Ferguson Townships
Centre County
Northcentral Region

Contract No. L-3746, State Game Land No. 43, Chester County

Commentary: Natural Lands Trust, Inc. (NLT) is offering 28+/- acres of land in West Nantmeal Township, Chester County adjoining State Game Land No. 43, commonly referred to as the Piccoli tract (Exhibit RED 3). The option price is \$25,000 lump sum to be paid with funds from the Game Fund. The parcel provides essential access into State Game Land No. 43 from the south and therefore the Commission may exceed \$400 per acre under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code. This same property was offered to the Game Commission at the January 29, 2019, Board of Game Commissioners (Board) Meeting by NLT as a donation under Contract No. L-3737. After the Board unanimously voted to approve accepting the donation at the January Commission Meeting, NLT had difficulty in securing matching federal funds in a timely manner to meet the obligations under their sales purchase contract with the current owner. To remove the risk of losing the property and the other funds previously committed to purchase the property, NLT asked the Commission to contribute \$25,000 to close the funding gap. NLT was successful in receiving non-federal funding through numerous partnership grants provided by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Chester County, the Open Space Institute, and the William Penn Foundation. Covenants, conditions, and restrictions associated with these funding sources will be required to accept the property. The tract has 18 acres of red oak mixed hardwoods, seven acres in agricultural fields and three acres in wetlands. An unnamed tributary to South Branch French Creek flows through the property. The property lies within an Important Bird Area referenced as the Hay-Creek-French Creek Forest Block and a federally listed endangered species is within close proximity. Access is from S.R. 23, locally known as Ridge Road.

Action:

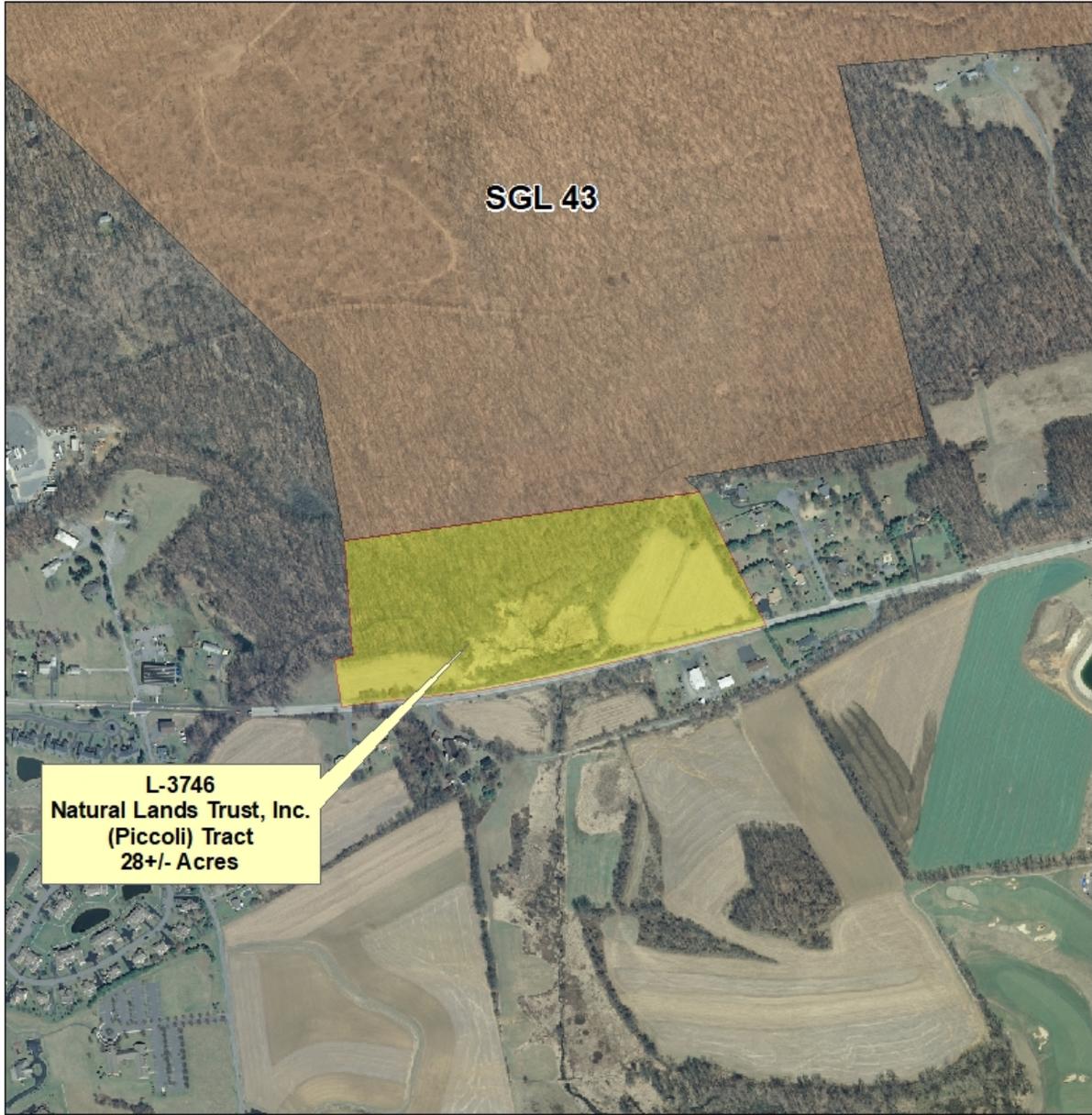


Exhibit RED 3

State Game Land No. 43

L-3746
Natural Lands Trust, Inc.
(Piccoli) Tract
28+/- Acres

West Nantmeal Township
Chester County
Southeast Region

OIL/GAS & MINERALS

B. Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement Tract 36A-19, State Game Land No. 36, Bradford County

Commentary:

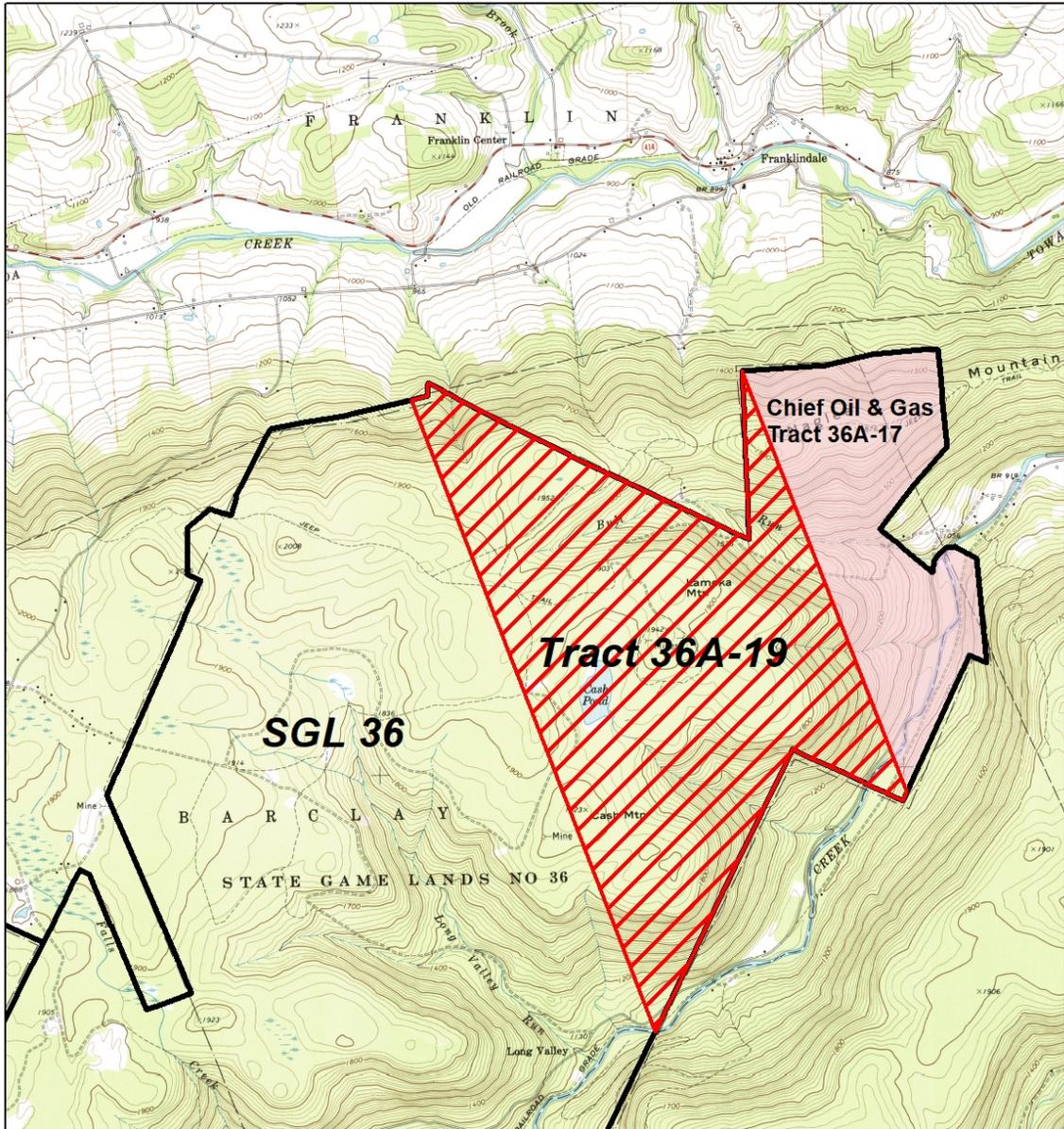
Chief Exploration & Development LLC (Chief) of Dallas, Texas has requested the Commission offer its oil and gas rights under a portion of State Game Land No. 36 for Non-Surface Use Development. The proposed tract, containing 1,500+/- acres, is located in Franklin and Overton Townships, Bradford County (Exhibit OGM 1).

Chief currently holds agreements to operate on approximately 25,951 acres of State Game Land Numbers 12 and 36 consisting of both Commission owned and severed gas rights. Chief will access the 1,500-acre reserve from its current and planned drilling operations on adjacent properties by horizontal drilling with no surface use or disturbance to the Game Land. Staff has negotiated the proposed terms of the agreement with Chief in an effort to prudently develop the Commission's oil/gas reserve and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and recreational use of State Game Land No. 36.

The terms of the Agreement are a five-year paid up non-surface use oil and gas agreement, a \$2,350 per net oil and gas acre bonus payment and 21% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The bonus payment of approximately \$3,525,000 may be deposited either into the Game Fund or into an interest-bearing escrow account to be used for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands or other uses incidental to hunting, fur taking and wildlife resource management. The payment will be made in two installments of \$1,762,500. The first payment will be made in July 2019 and the second will be due in July 2020. Future rentals and royalties owed the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and Gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas Regulations and the Commission's Standard Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement.

Action:



-  Non-Surface Use Agreement Area 1,500 +/- Acres
-  State Game Land

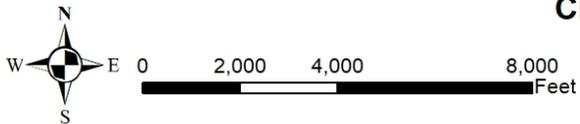


EXHIBIT OGM 1
State Game Land No. 36
Non-Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Chief Exploration & Development, LLC
Tract 36A-19
1500 +/- Acres
 Franklin & Overton Twps., Bradford County
 Northeast Region

C. Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement
Tract 223A-19, State Game Land No. 223, Greene County

Commentary:

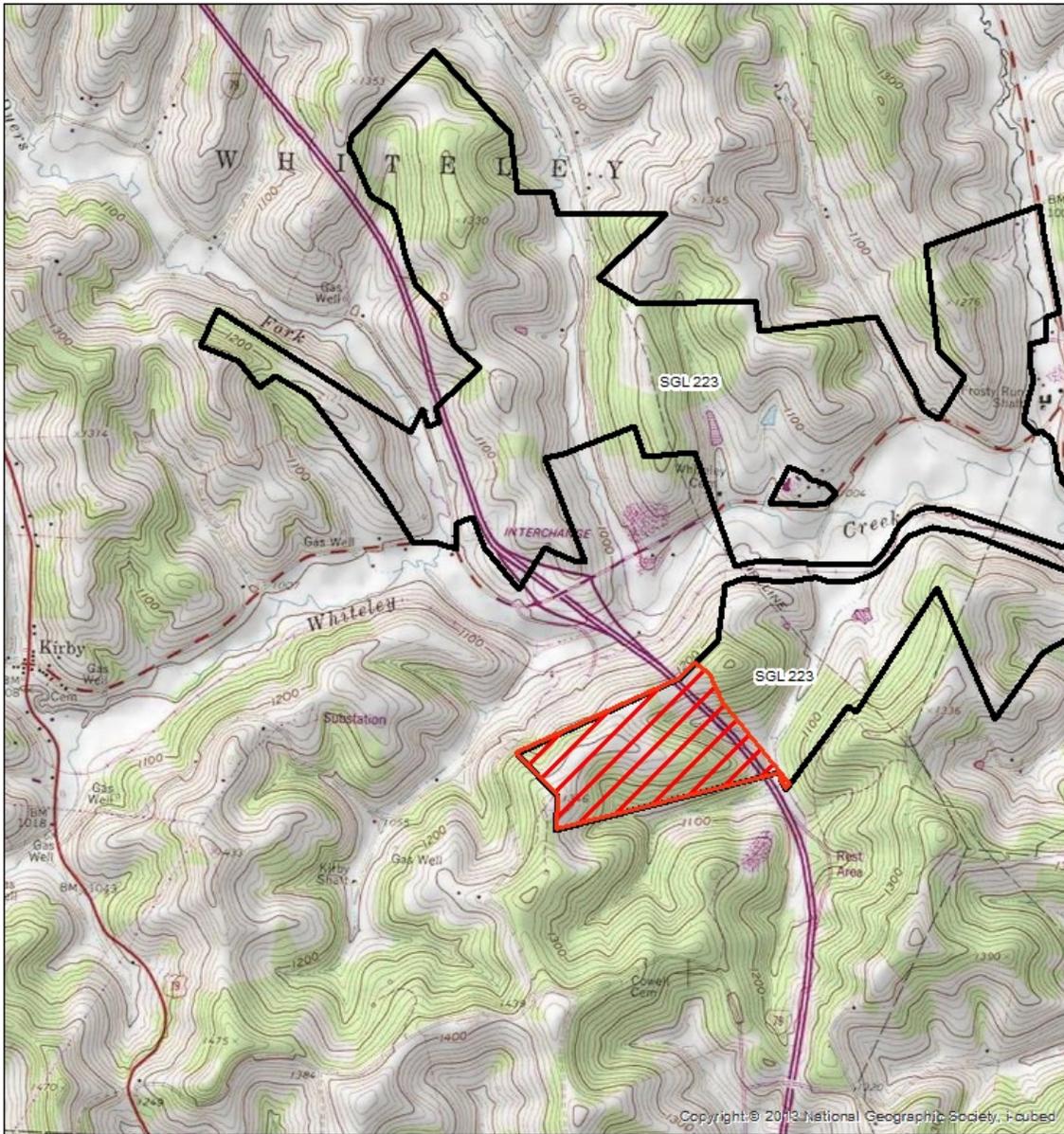
Greylock Production, LLC (Greylock) requested the Commission offer its oil and gas rights under a portion of State Game Land No. 223 for non-surface use development. The proposed tract, containing 106.37 +/- surface acres (106.37 Oil/Gas acres) is located in Whiteley Township, Greene County (Exhibit OGM 2).

Greylock has a strong privately owned oil/gas lease position surrounding this portion of State Game Land No. 223. Greylock has initiated unconventional well drilling and development in the vicinity of the proposed tract, and has the ability to unitize and develop the Commission's oil and gas reserves under the proposed tract by horizontal drilling with no surface use or disturbance to the game land. Staff has negotiated the proposed terms of the agreement with Greylock in an effort to prudently develop the Commission's oil and gas reserves and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and recreational use of State Game Land No. 223.

The terms of the Agreement are a five-year paid up Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Agreement, a \$4,000 per net oil and gas acre bonus payment and 18% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The bonus payment of approximately \$425,480 may be deposited either into the Game Fund or into an interest bearing escrow account to be used for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management. Future rentals and royalties owed the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and Gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas Regulations and the Commission's Standard Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement.

Action:



Legend

-  Non-Surface Use Agreement Area
255.59 +/- Surface Acres
(net 106.37 +/- Oil/Gas Acres)
-  State Game Land No. 223

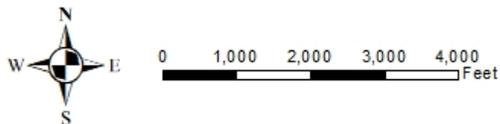


EXHIBIT OGM 2
State Game Land No. 223
Non-Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Greylock Production, LLC
Tract 223A-19
106.37 +/- Oil/Gas Acres
 Whiteley Twp., Greene County
 Southwest Region

D. Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement
Tract 245A-19, State Game Land No. 245, Washington County

Commentary:

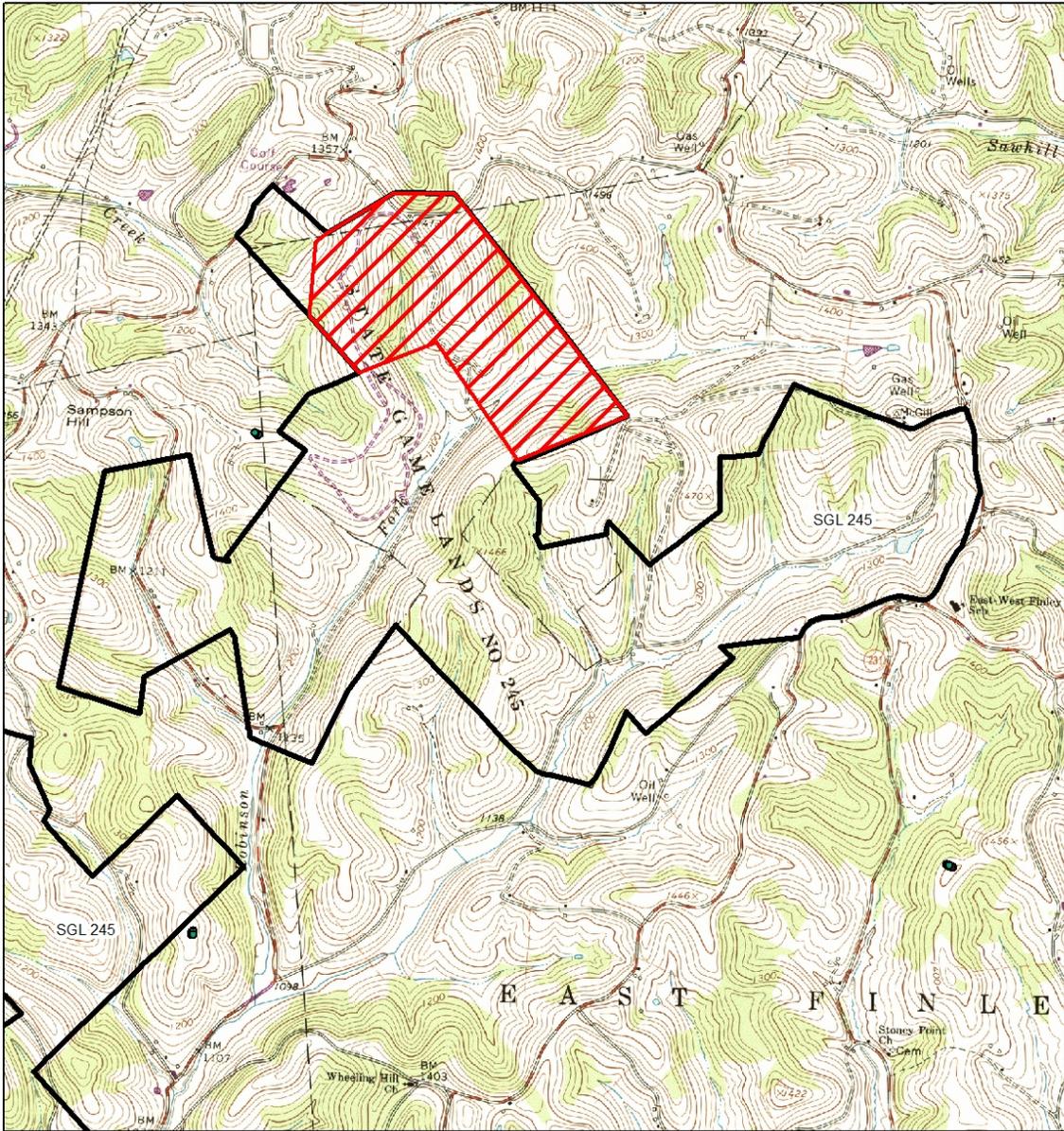
EQT Production (EQT) of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania has requested the Commission offer its oil and gas rights under portions of State Game Land No. 245 for non-surface use development. The proposed tract, containing approximately 240 net acres (240 +/- Oil/Gas acres), is located in East Finley and Donegal Townships, Washington County (Exhibit OGM 3).

EQT has a strong, privately-owned oil/gas lease position surrounding this portion of State Game Land No. 245. EQT has initiated unconventional well drilling and development in the vicinity of the proposed tract, and also have the ability to unitize and develop the Commission's oil and gas reserve under the proposed tract by horizontal drilling with no surface use or disturbance to the game land. Staff has negotiated the proposed terms of the agreement with EQT in an effort to prudently develop the Commission's oil and gas reserves and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and recreational use of State Game Land No. 245.

The terms of the Agreement are a five-year paid up Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Agreement, a \$4,000 per net oil and gas acre bonus payment and 18% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The bonus payment of approximately \$960,000 may be deposited either into the Game Fund or into an interest-bearing escrow account to be used for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management. Future rentals and royalties owed the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and Gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas Regulations and the Commission's Standard Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement.

Action:



Legend

 Non-Surface Use Agreement Area
240 +/- Acres

 State Game Land No. 245



0 2,000 4,000 Feet

EXHIBIT OGM 3
State Game Land No. 245
Non-Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
EQT Production Company
Tract 245A-19
240 +/- Surface Acres

East Finley and Donegal Twps.,
 Washington County, Southwest Region

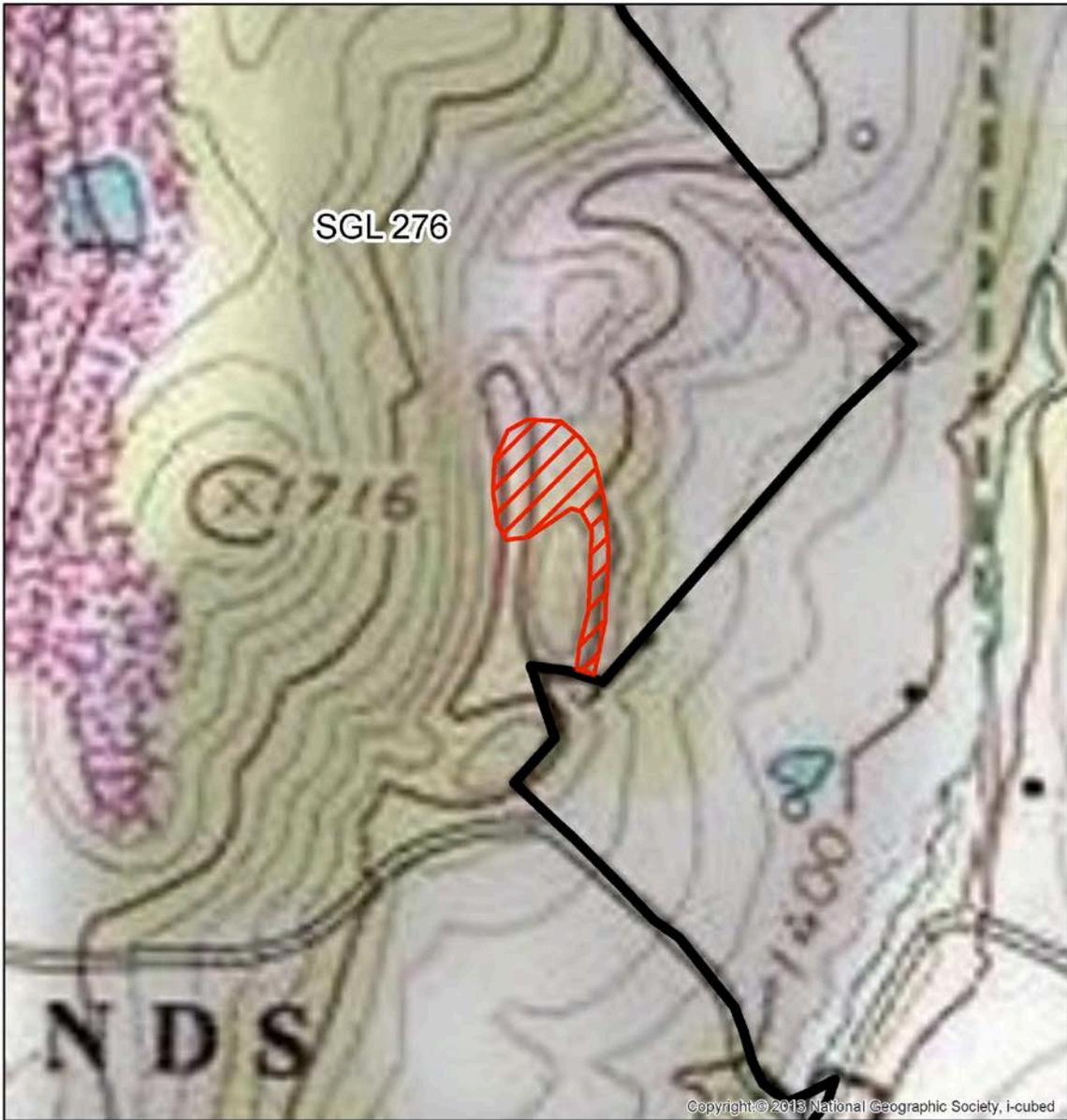
E. Coal Refuse Reclamation Agreement
Tract 276A-19, State Game Land No. 276, Indiana County

Commentary:

Alverda Enterprises, Inc. (Alverda) of Alverda, Pennsylvania has requested an Agreement to mine and remove approximately 36,000 tons of economically recoverable coal refuse material on approximately one acre of State Game Land No. 276, and the right to occupy an additional six-tenths acres for a total of approximately one and six-tenths acres (Exhibit OGM 4). The Game Commission owns the surface and surface support rights, and coal refuse conveyed with the property. Removal of potential acid-forming coal refuse and elimination of an abandoned surface coal mine feature along with wildlife habitat enhancements exist with the proposed project. The terms are a five-year agreement, and a royalty rate of thirty cents per ton of coal refuse removed from the premises. All coal refuse royalty payments will be deposited in the Game Fund. Mining will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Mining Regulations and the Commission's Standard Coal Refuse Reclamation Agreement.

Action:

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 Coal Refuse Reclamation Agreement Area 1.6 +/- Acres

 State Game Land No. 276

EXHIBIT OGM 4

State Game Land No. 276

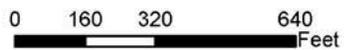
Coal Refuse Reclamation Agreement

Alverda Enterprises, Inc.

Tract 276A-19

1.6 +/- Acres

Brush Valley Township, Indiana County
Southwest Region



OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Next Working Group Meeting – June 24, 2019

Next Commission Meeting – July 22 - 23, 2019

Executive Session, if necessary, will be held immediately following the close of the Commission Meeting.

Adjournment

DRAFT