

<p style="text-align: center;">PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #33 Lehigh Valley/Lehigh Gorge State Park</p>

COUNTY(IES) Carbon, Luzerne

APPROX. SIZE 4,548 acres

OWNERSHIP Public (State, Local), Private

REASON FOR SELECTION

- Sustains a confirmed viable local population of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the species or subspecies regularly occurs at the site during one or more seasons

DESCRIPTION

Located near White Haven southeast of Wilkes-Barre in eastern PA, this IMA is part of a large habitat block on the Pocono Plateau. SGLs 40, 141, and 149 are included. The deep gorge, dense vegetation, rock outcroppings, waterfalls, and streamside habitats dominate. Northern flying squirrel habitat is largely a floodplain area following Sandy Run. The dominant tree species is hemlock, which is mixed with some deciduous trees.

MAMMAL NOTES

Northern flying squirrels and Allegheny woodrats (northern-most woodrat complex) have been recorded at this site. Monitoring for northern water shrews is needed. As of 2010, the Lehigh Gorge woodrats may be extirpated.

CONSERVATION NOTES

Several special concern species of plants (tooth-cup, crane fly orchid, puttyroot, golden seal) and birds (short-eared owl, king rail) have been found here. SGL 149 includes a clean brook trout stream and hemlocks uninfected with woolly adelgid (as of 2003).