

SPORTSMEN'S RECREATION MAP



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



STATE GAME LANDS No. 183 PIKE COUNTY

State Game Lands (SGL) 183 is located in the Pennsylvania Game Commission's (PGC) Northeast Region. SGL 183 comprises portions of Blooming Grove, Palmyra, and Lackawaxen Townships in Pike County. SGL 183 is situated north and south of SR 6, east of SR 507, and north of SR 84. Kimble's road, T367 travels through the eastern portion of the game lands.

Terrain is forested and has several large wetland areas. Private lands surround the western, northern and eastern sides of the game lands. The Delaware State Forest borders most of the southern portion. The elevation varies from 880 feet, found along Decker Creek near the eastern boundary of the game lands to the highest elevation of 1,459 feet along the southwestern boundary near the Tanglewood ski resort. Game Lands 183 is very typical of the oak forest types within the Pocono Plateau. While 86% of the total acreage exists as terrestrial forest cover (2,405 acres), there is an assortment of smaller community types found across the game land. These include terrestrial herbaceous openings, palustrine forests and woodlands, and aquatic communities accounting for approximately 360 acres. SGL 183's terrestrial forest cover is dominated by the mixed oak forest type covering 63% (1,833 acres) of the game land.

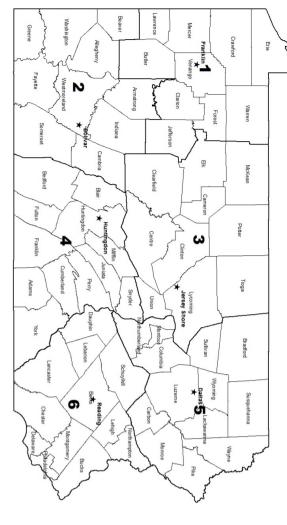
Primary public access to SGL 183 is from Interstates 380 and 84, and PA 507. These routes provide access from Wyoming Valley to the south and New York and New Jersey to the east. US Route 6 and PA 402 bisect the game lands. Township routes 367, along Decker Creek, and Township route 369, near Wilsonville, provide the main access to the interior of the tract.

There are nine public parking areas. Former logging roads provide foot access into the game lands. These roads are grass covered and have mostly moderate grades that make for comfortable hiking opportunities. No game lands roads are open to public travel. The trails and right-of-ways are used for administrative access and are non-motorized designated routes.

State Game Lands 183 is entirely within Wildlife management Unit 3D. Popular species on SGL 183 include whitetail deer, eastern wild turkey, bear, coyote, ruffed grouse and squirrels. A population of snowshoe hares may also be present. Black bears provide excellent hunting opportunities and waterfowl hunting is popular in the Decker Marsh and brook.

Populations of raccoons, mink, beaver, grey fox, bobcats, and the eastern coyote offer furtaking opportunities on SGL 183.

Other recreation activities available include: hiking and cross-country skiing on the game lands. Mushroom picking is popular with the locals who prefer to explore by foot during warmer seasons of the year. Fishing from the dam breast for crappies and bullheads is popular along with fishing for stocked trout in the Decker brook. A 100 yard shooting range is open to the public just east of the Decker pond.



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