



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. 249 ADAMS COUNTY State Game Lands (SGL) 249 consists of 1,959 acres in three tracts in Butler, Tyrone, Huntington, Reading, and Latimore Townships in northeastern Adams County, approximately 12 miles northeast of Gettysburg. SGL 249 is in two Wildlife Management Units (WMU). Compartments 1 and 2 are located in WMU 5A. Compartment 3 is located in WMU 5B, immediately east of route 94, the dividing boundary between these two WMUs.

The surrounding landscape is characterized by low ridges and adjacent agricultural lands, woodlots, and developed areas. Elevations on this relatively flat gamelands vary little from about 540 feet above mean sea level along Mud Run to approximately 680 feet along Stone Jug Road (TR-529).

Public access to SGL 249 is excellent. Compartment 1 is accessible from Twin Bridge Road (TR-563) or Stone Jug Road (TR-529) via old US Route 15 south of Heidlersburg. Vehicular access to compartment 2 is possible by using SR 234 east of Heidlersburg. Wiermans Road (SR 1009), Gun Club Road (TR-580), and Buttonwood Road (TR-634) all afford easy access to this compartment. Compartment 3 is accessible by following SR 94 south of Bermudian Springs School. Additional access is possible from Baltimore Road (TR-610), Lake Meade Road (SR 1005), and Ironstone Road (TR-612). Several designated PGC parking areas and interior service roads provide ample pedestrian access to the interior.

Three propagation areas are maintained on SGL 249, one each in compartments 1 (129 acres), 2 (80 acres), and 3 (26 acres).

SGL 249 receives considerable numbers of deer, turkey, and smallgame hunters. Fields in all three compartments are stocked with pheasants during the regular seasons for put-and-take hunting and youth hunting programs that have been in effect for several decades. Woodcock hunters find decent numbers of birds in low-lying habitats along wetlands. Rabbit hunting also is popular. In fact, SGL 249 receives greater small game hunting pressure than many areas in Adams County, attracting a loyal following of out-of-state hunters from Maryland to Virginia. Dove hunting opportunities abound within the PGC-managed and cultivated fields. Waterfowl hunters take advantage of the numerous impoundments in all three compartments and Conewago Creek. Trapping pressure is minimal, but some furtaking, including night hunting for raccoon and fox and trapping in the wetlands also occurs.

SGL 249 is popular for field dog trials. The managed fields and impoundments provide habitat conducive for both waterfowl and upland bird trials. Conewago Creek is a stocked trout stream and popular fishing destination. A seasonal access road not normally open during spring has in recent years been opened prior to trout season to allow additional access. Anglers use some of the 21 existing ponds for warm-water fishing. Hikers, mountain bikers, horseback riders, and bird watchers also find numerous trails and administrative roads for which to pursue these outdoor activities. 9/30/2011

