



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. 268 TIOGA COUNTY

State Game Lands (SGL) 268 (3023.13 acres) is in southern Tioga County, within Delmar and Morris Townships, about 10 air miles southwest of Wellsboro.

Access is provided by Rattler Mine Road (T812) from RT 287 and Stoney Fork Rd (T462) from RT 360 near Wellsboro. There are 2 parking areas and 3 gated roads that provide foot access.

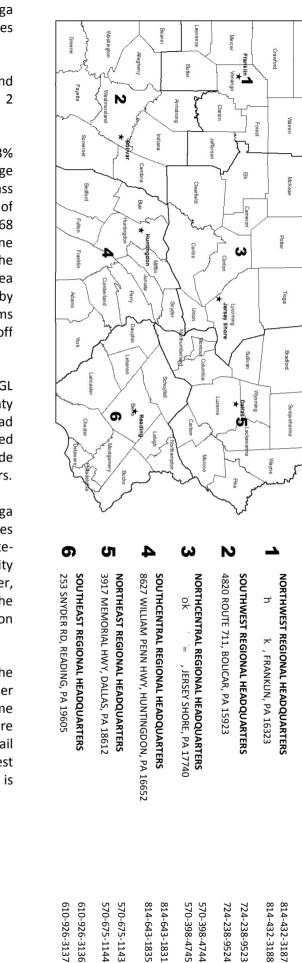
State Game Lands 268 is predominantly forested (43% Northern/Allegheny hardwoods, 11% conifer, 10% aspen). Forest age distribution is heavily weighted toward the 81–125 year age class due to limited access, stream crossings and a combination of steepness and soil conditions. Approximately 70 acres within SGL 268 exists as a grassland type habitat, the result of several acid mine drainage reclamation projects that have been implemented since the 1960s. Prior to ownership by the PA Game Commission, this area was intensively mined for coal. On-going conservation efforts by many organizations have improved many of the nearby streams through treatment projects for acid mine drainage, both on and off of SGL 268.

Forested and scrub/shrub wetlands comprise 2% of the total SGL area. One of these wetlands has been recognized in the Tioga County Natural Heritage Inventory (CNHI) as the "Rattler Mine Road Wetlands" and is noted for supporting populations of two state-listed dragonfly species. Other wetlands on the Game Lands are man-made and play an important role in the treatment of mine drainage waters.

This Game Lands is located in Wildlife Management Unit 2G of Tioga County within the Northcentral Region. A variety of game species can be found on this Game Lands. The more common include whitetailed deer, black bear, and gray squirrel. Trappers have opportunity for red and gray foxes, coyote, raccoon, opossum, skunk, beaver, muskrat, mink and bobcat. Game Lands 268 is also part of the Northern Allegheny Plateau Important Mammal Area. Common game birds are wild turkey and ruffed grouse.

One trail is proved for equestrian access along the Main Road at the southern most gate along Rattler Mine Road. Starting from Rattler Mine Road, equestrians may enter the Main Road into the Game Lands and travel approximately 2 miles along the access road before returning along the same route. A portion of the Mid-State Trail transverses the southwestern most corner of SGL 268 on the west side of Stoney Fork Creek. This is a foot travel-only trail. The trail is located between the mouth of Black Run and Paint Run.

3/22/2012



CONTACT THE FOLLOWING

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION