

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. 285 **BEAVER COUNTY**

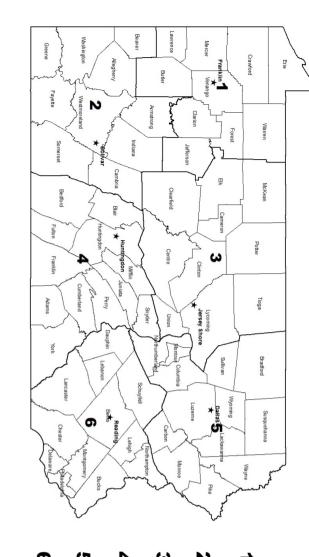
State game land (SGL) 285 is located in Darlington and South Beaver Townships in western Beaver County in Wildlife Management Unit 1A and currently has a deeded acreage of 2,840.4 acres. The western boundary of SGL 285 is the Ohio/Pennsylvania State line. State Route (SR) 251 lies to the south of the game land while State Routes 168 and 51 lay to the east.

The Game Commission currently maintains nine public parking areas on SGL 285. There are 12.7 miles of maintained administrative roads and several designated routes for horseback riding and mountain biking on this game land. These roads provide public access to the SGL interior by foot. All roads, except one, are currently closed yearround to motor vehicles and access is controlled with signage and/or eight locked gates. The farthest area by foot from any parking lot or public road is approximately 0.75 miles. Its multiple-gated roads and trails are used for management activities and the operation of the numerous gas wells, electric and gas-line ROWs and provide very nice avenues for hiking, bird watching, and other similar forms of outdoor activities.

The North Country National Scenic Trail passes through the southern section of the western block of SGL 285. The Youngstown and Southern Railroad crosses SGL 285 north of the North Fork Little Beaver Creek. The only rifle range on SGL 285 was closed in 2009. There are no plans for reopening the range.

Hunting and furtaking opportunities include white-tailed deer, turkey, ruffed grouse, rabbit, and squirrel. Waterfowl hunting, primarily for wood ducks, mallardsand other dabbling ducks, occurs throughout SGL 285 along Little Beaver Creek, associated tributaries, and small wetlands. Furtaking opportunities include beaver, mink, raccoon, coyote, and fox. Stocking of ring-necked pheasant occurs where suitable habitat exists on SGL 285.

A relatively large game land, SGL 285 is of sufficient size to accommodate horseback riding and mountain biking, and contains several designated routes for these activities. Multiple-gated roads and trails used for management activities and the operation of numerous gas wells, electric and gas-line ROWs provide very nice avenues for hiking, bird watching, and other similar forms of outdoor activities. North Fork Little Beaver Creek is an approved trout stream and provides fishing opportunities.



IORTHEAST REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS 1917 MEMORIAL HWY, DALLAS, PA 18612 WILLIAM PENN HWY, HUNTINGDON, PA

570-675-1143 570-675-1144

814-643-1831 814-643-1835

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
JERSEY SHORE, PA 1774C

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION