

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. 292 LUZERNE COUNTY

State Game Lands(SGL) 292 is approximately 630 acres located in the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Northeast Region, Luzerne County, and lies partly in Bear Creek Township, and Laurel Run Borough. The Game Lands are about 2 air miles south of Wilkes-Barre.

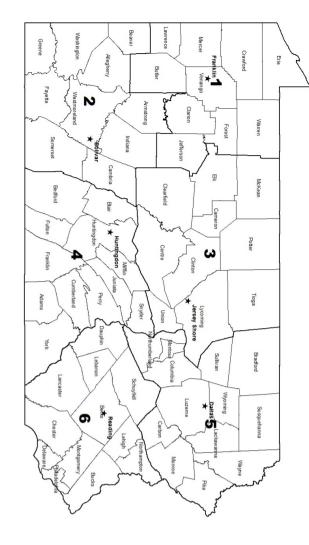
Interstate 81, the Pennsylvania Turnpike (476) and route 115 provide access from the Wyoming Valley to route 2007. The Old Farm Road (Laurelhurst Road) gives access to the parking area. Bungalow Road runs from the parking area to small interior holding on the Game Lands. This parking area provides the only access from a public road.

Topography is generally moderate slopes with several swampy, poorly drained areas. The lowest elevation is 1,320 feet and highest elevation is about 2,020 feet. The Game Lands are located in the Susquehanna River watershed. Game Lands 292 is a very typical of the oak forest types within the Pocono Plateau. This Game Lands have a wide range of species with red oak, white oak, and chestnut oak being the dominant species. There are a wide range of other hardwoods and softwoods from black oak, scarlet oak, white pine, and eastern hemlock.

In 1990 there were approximately 28 grouse blocks (1/4 to ½ acre in size) cut by volunteers scattered throughout the game lands. An overstory removal was completed to provide early successional habitat.

This Game Lands is entirely within Wildlife Management Unit 3D. The most popular hunting pursuits are for whitetail deer, black bear, ruffed grouse, squirrel and wild turkey. Furtakers pursue primarily raccoon and coyote. Small game hunting, except for squirrel and grouse is very limited. Habitat for cottontail rabbit, except for brushy areas along the power lines, and pheasant is non-existent. Pheasants are not stocked on this game land.

There are not any designated motorized routes, such as snowmobile trails or disabled hunter ATV trails, on this Game Land. There are approximately 5 miles of non-motorized designated public routes for horseback riding and mountain biking. These areas are along the PPL power lines and include the Farm and Loop Roads. This Game Land is relatively small in size and is not a major attraction for bird watching, hiking, cross country skiing, berry or mushroom picking.



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