

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



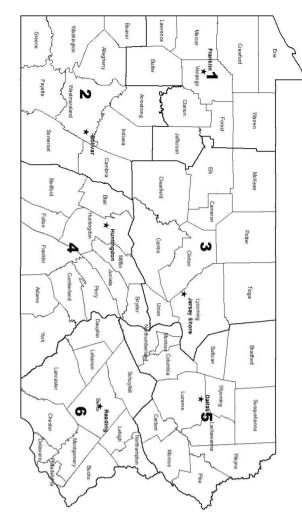
STATE GAME LANDS No. 313 **TIOGA COUNTY**

State Game Land (SGL) 313 is 408.7 acres in three separate tracks located in Delmar and Chatham Townships in northern Tioga County. The main tract is located in Delmar Township, 2.85 miles northwest of Wellsboro. The second tract is northwest just north of Little Marsh. The third tract lies between US-6 and and the Marsh Creek. The SGL is in a mostly rural setting in Tioga County, although it is right next to a busy railroad that supplies the local natural gas industry.

PA-287 provides access to the main part of the game land along the western boundary, T- 479 provides access along the southeast boundary, and T-540 provides access from PA-287 to the western boundary of the game land. US-6 provides access to the parcel southwest of the main body of the game land. This game land has only one maintained parking area, located along Dressler Road (T540). From the parking area, access is by foot travel only or by putting in a canoe/kayak from the foot trail to the viewing blind. All other portions of SGL 313 are land locked by private parcels.

Topography is basically flat as this game land is mostly wetlands. The highest elevation of about 1,175 feet is found along the railroad grade near the northwest corner of the game land and the lowest elevation of 1,160 feet is found along most of Marsh Creek. Mixed Herbaceous Shrub Wetland (HQ) and Natural Ponds (P2) cover approximately 96% of this game lands. The actual acreage of open water is variable, but generally covers about 46 acres (16%), whereas HQ covers about 219 acres (80%) of the game lands. SGL 313 occurs within a larger area referred to locally as "the Muck", and historically known as "Stokesdale Marsh" with botanical records traced back to the mid-1800's. The area was used for celery farming until the late 1940's and has since been allowed to revert to a mixed graminoidrobust emergent marsh.

This game land is located in Wildlife Management Unit 3A of Tioga County within the Northcentral Region. The principle species hunted consist of various waterfowl, with the most common species being Canada goose. Muskrat trapping also occurs in this locale. Due to the minimal upland terrain available, hunting for white-tailed deer, eastern wild turkey, and cottontail rabbit occur on an extremely limited basis. Hunting pressure is not excessive due to the extensive nature of the wetland component and nearby safety zones. Other recreation activities on SGL 313 includes bird-watching. This SGL is extensively utilized by the local and traveling "birding community" due to the fact that the land is designated as an Important Bird Area and provides a wooden viewing blind within easy walking distance of the only parking area.



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