COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



AGENDA HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA January 29, 2013

> Carl G. Roe Executive Director

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Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Game Commission

Agenda

The Commission Meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2013 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

Ralph A. Martone, President
Robert W. Schlemmer, Vice President
David J. Putnam, Secretary
David W. Schreffler
James J. Delaney, Jr.
Ronald A. Weaner
Brian H. Hoover
Charles E. Fox

Approval of Minutes of Commission Meeting held September 25, 2012.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.4.

Commentary:

To effectively manage the wildlife resources and provide hunting and trapping opportunities in this Commonwealth during the upcoming license year, the Commission is proposing to amend §139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2013-2014 license year. The 2013-2014 seasons and bag limits have been amended to reflect current available scientific data, population and harvest records, field surveys and professional staff observations, as well as recommendations received from staff, organized sporting groups, members of the agricultural community and others interested in the management of the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth.

Due to a shift in the 2013 calendar dates season opening dates are about one week later than in 2012.

Proposed changes to small game seasons include reopening snowshoe hare hunting statewide with a daily bag of one hare and implementing either sex pheasant hunting in WMU 2A.

In regards to wild turkey season changes, 2013 marks the 3rd year of the hen harvest rate and survival study. The study design provided for 2 years (2011 and 2012) of a 2-week fall season in Study Area 1 (WMUs 2C, 2E, 4A, 4B, and 4D) and a 3-week fall season in Study Area 2 (WMUs 2F and 2G), followed by switching season lengths between study areas and maintaining this structure for 2 additional years (2013 and 2014). The proposed changes to these 7 WMUs accomplish the purposes of the "cross-over" design. Simultaneously increasing the season length in Study Area 1 and shortening the season length in Study Area 2 will allow us to detect differences in harvest rates within study areas, as well as any differences in the pattern of change between study areas, thereby improving our management of the wild turkey.

Four changes to the extended bear hunting season are proposed; 1) add a Wednesday – Saturday extended season in WMU 4B, 2) move the opening day of the extended in WMU 3D from Wednesday to Monday, 3) eliminate the Monday – Saturday extended season in portions of WMUs 3B, and 2G and replace them with a Monday – Saturday extended season open in all of WMU 3B, and 4) eliminate separate opening days that occur in different portions of WMU 4E and implement a Wednesday – Saturday extended season in all of WMU 4E.

Concerning furbearer seasons, we are proposing to increase the daily and season bag limit for beaver to 20 daily, 20 per season in WMUs 2C and 5C. Increases in nuisance complaints warrant this change which is

consistent with the Beaver Management Plan. Also, the numbers and density of incidental fisher captures during the past three years in WMUs 3A, 3D and 4E are comparable to those observed in WMU's currently open to harvest and would warrant adding these WMUs to the list of WMUs with an established fisher trapping season.



"EXHIBIT A"

(SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)

2013-2014 OPEN HUNTING AND FURTAKING SEASONS, DAILY LIMIT, FIELD POSSESSION LIMIT AND SEASON LIMIT OPEN SEASON INCLUDES FIRST AND LAST DATES LISTED

Species	First Day		Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After First Day
Squirrels – (Combined species) Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 12		Oct. 18	6	12
Squirrels – (Combined species)	Oct. 19	and	Nov. 30	6	12
	Dec. 16	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26		Feb. 22, 2014		
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 19	and	Nov. 30	2	4
	Dec. 16	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26		Jan. 25, 2014		
Rabbits, Cottontail – Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 12		Oct. 19	4	8
Rabbits, Cottontail	Oct. 26	and	Nov. 30	4	8
	Dec. 16	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	anu	Feb. 22, 2014		

Ring-necked Pheasant – There is no open season for the taking of pheasants in any area designated as a wild pheasant recovery area within any wildlife management unit.

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After First Day
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male only in WMUs 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A, & 5B Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	2	4
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C & 5D Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 12	Oct. 19	2	4
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male only in WMUs 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A, & 5B	Oct. 26	Nov. 30	2	4
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2D, 2E,2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C & 5D	Oct. 26 and Dec. 16 and Dec. 26	Nov. 30 Dec. 24 Feb. 1, 2014	2	4
Bobwhite Quail - The hunting and taking of bobwhite quail is permitted in all WMUs except in WMUs 4A, 4B, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D where the season is closed.	Oct. 26	Nov. 30	4	8
Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares	Dec. 26	Jan. 1, 2014	1	2
Woodchucks (Groundhog)	No closed season except during the regular firearms deer seasons. Hunting on Sundays is prohibited.			ed
Porcupines Season closed during the overlap with the regular firearms deer seasons.	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	3	10

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Turkey - Male or Female			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow & Arrow only)	Nov. 2	Nov. 22		
(Shotgan, 20 n of Thron Smj)	Nov. 28	Nov. 30		
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A & 2D	Nov. 2	Nov. 16		
	and Nov. 28	Nov. 30		
WMUs 2C, 2E, 4A, 4B & 4D	Nov. 2	Nov. 22		
., , ,	Nov. 28	Nov. 30		
WMUs 2F & 2G	Nov. 2	Nov. 16		
2F & 2G	Nov. 28	Nov. 30		
WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C & 4E	Nov. 2	Nov. 22		
	Nov. 28	Nov. 30		
WMU 5A	Nov. 5	Nov. 7		
WMUs 5B, 5C & 5D	Closed to fall turke	y hunting		
Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide ¹ Bearded Bird only			1	2
Bourate Bara only	May 3, 2014	May 17, 2014 sunrise to 12 noon	May be hunted ½	hour before
	and			
	May 19, 2014	May 31, 2014	May be hunted ½ sunrise to ½ hour a	
Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide Youth Hur Bearded Bird only Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and when properly accompanied	u ¹ April 26,	2014	1	1

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Except as further restricted by this chapter, the seasons, bag limits, hunting hours and hunting regulations for migratory game birds shall conform to regulations adopted by the United States Secretary of the Interior under authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C.A. §§703-711) as published in the Federal Register on or about August 27 and September 28 of each year. Exceptions:

(a) Hunting hours in §141.4 (relating to hunting hours).

(b) Nontoxic shot as approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is required for use Statewide in hunting and taking of migratory waterfowl.

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After First Day
Crows (Hunting permitted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	July 5	April 6, 2014	Un	limited
Starlings and English Sparrows	No closed seaso regular firearms	on except during the s deer seasons.	Un	limited

FALCONRY

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After First Day
Squirrels – (Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	6	12
Quail	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	4	8
Ruffed Grouse	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	2	4
Cottontail Rabbits	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	4	8
Snowshoe or Varying Hare	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	1	2
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male and Female - (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2014	2	4

Migratory Game Birds - Seasons and bag limits shall be in accordance with Federal regulations.

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
Deer, Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) ² (Statewide)	Oct. 5 and Dec. 26	Nov. 16 Jan. 11, 2014	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sept. 21 and Nov. 18	Oct. 4 Nov. 30	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Jan. 13, 2014	Jan. 25, 2014	One antlered and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 3A, 3D, 4A, 4C, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 2	Dec. 14	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered only) ² WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 2	Dec. 6	One antlered deer.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 7	Dec. 14	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only) (Statewide) Only Junior and Senior License Holders, ³ Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces or in the U.S. Coast Guard, with required antlerless license	Oct. 24	Oct. 26	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only) (Statewide)	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Jan. 11, 2014	One antlered, or one antlerless-plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

WHITE-TAILED DEER – (Continued)

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 25, 2014	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 25, 2014	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Antlerless (Letterkenny Army Depot, Franklin County and New Cumberland Army Depot, York County and Fort Detrick, Raven Rock Site, Adams County)	Hunting is permitte established by the UDepartment of the A	Jnited States	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

BLACK BEAR

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Bear, any age (Archery only) ⁴ (Statewide)	Nov. 18	Nov. 22	1	1
Bear, any age (Archery only) 4 WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sept. 21	Nov. 16	1	1
Bear, any age (Archery only) 4 WMU 5B	Oct. 5	Nov. 16	1	1
Bear, any age (Muzzleloader) ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Oct. 19	Oct. 26	1	1
Bear, any age (Special Firearms) ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D Junior & Senior License holders, disabled and PA residents on active duty in armed services	Oct. 24	Oct. 26	1	1
Bear, any age (Regular Firearms) ⁴ (Statewide)	Nov. 23	Nov. 27	1	1
Bear, any age, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 4	Dec. 7	1	1
Bear, any age, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 2	Dec. 14	1	1
Bear, any age, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, & 3D	Dec. 2	Dec. 7	1	1

ELK

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Elk, Special Conservation ⁵ (Antlered & Antlerless)	Sept. 2	Nov. 9	1	One e1k with required license
Elk, Regular ⁵ (Antlered & Antlerless)	Nov. 4	Nov. 9	1	One e1k with required license
Elk, Extended 5 (Antlered & Antlerless)	Nov. 11	Nov. 16	1	One e1k with required license

FURTAKING - TRAPPING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit		Season Limit
Minks and Muskrats (Statewide)	Nov. 23	Jan. 5, 2014		Unlimited	
Beaver (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2014			
WMUs 1A, 1B, & 3C (Combined)			20		40
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C & 5D ((Combined)		20		20
WMUs 2G, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, & 5B (Combined)			5		5
Coyotes, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Skunks, Weasels - (Statewide)	Oct. 27	Feb. 23, 2014		Unlimited	
Coyotes & Foxes - (Statewide) (Cable restraint devices may be used)	Dec. 26	Feb. 23, 2014		Unlimited	
Bobcat (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 21	Jan. 12, 2014	1		1
Fisher (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3D, 4D & 4E	Dec. 21	Dec. 26	1		1

FURTAKING - HUNTING

			Daily	Season
Species	First Day	Last Day	Limit	Limit
Coyotes - (Statewide)	taken with a hu	big game season may inting license or a furta hout wearing orange.		limited
Coyotes - (During any big game season)	May be taken or with a furtal	while lawfully hunting ker's license.	big game	
Opossums, Skunks, Weasels (Statewide)	No closed seas	on.		
Raccoons and Foxes - (Statewide)	Oct. 26	Feb. 22, 2014	Un	limited
Bobcat (with appropriate permit)				
WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C,4D & 4E	Jan. 21	Feb. 11, 2014	1	1

No open seasons on other wild birds or wild mammals.

¹ Only persons who possess a special wild turkey license as provided for in section 2709 of the act (relating to license costs and fees) may take a second spring gobbler during the hunting license year; all other persons, including mentored youth hunters, may take only one spring gobbler. A maximum of 2 gobblers per license year may be taken by any combination of licenses or exceptions for mentored youth.

²Only one antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

³ Includes persons who have reached or will reach their 65th birthday in the year of the application for the license and hold a valid adult license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).

⁴Only one bear may be taken during the hunting license year.

⁵Only one elk may be taken during the hunting license year.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 147.804.

<u>Commentary</u>: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the

Game Commission proposed at its September 25, 2012, meeting to amend § 147.804 (relating to general) to allow a mentor to transfer a valid DMAP permit issued to him to an eligible mentored youth upon the harvest of an

antlerless deer.

EXHIBIT "A"

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter X. MENTORED YOUTH HUNTING PROGRAM PERMIT

§ 147.804. General.

* * * * *

(i) Notwithstanding the prohibitions in § 147.676(2) and (3) (relating to unlawful acts), mentors are authorized to transfer a Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) harvest permit issued to them to an eligible mentored youth. The DMAP harvest permit shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting antlerless deer. The transfer of the DMAP harvest permit may not occur until after the mentored youth has harvested the antlerless deer, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth may not receive by transfer more than one DMAP harvest permit each license year. A mentored youth is ineligible to make direct application for a DMAP harvest permit.

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 137.35.

Commentary:

The Commission has determined that the complete eradication of feral swine and wild boar from the wild within Pennsylvania is necessary to prevent further harm to its natural resources, agricultural industry, forest products industry and threats to human health and safety. The Commission has previously promulgated an Executive Order to remove protection for feral swine. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court declared that the Commission has jurisdiction over matters relating to wild boars (a member of the family *Suidae*, and also a feral swine) in Seeton v. PGC, 937 A.2d 1028 (Pa., 2007). The Commission is proposing to remove protection for feral swine and wild boar statewide, wherever found, in order to protect the natural resources of the Commonwealth, its traditional agricultural and forest products industries and mitigate threats to human health and safety. The Commission is also proposing to prohibit the importation, possession and release into the wild of feral swine and wild boar to further these ends.

CHAPTER 137. WILDLIFE

§ 137.35. Feral swine and wild boar eradication.

- (a) Protection removed. Protection on feral swine and wild boar is removed statewide, except in those areas designated as containing broad scale official eradication trapping operations as designated by Executive Order of the Director.
- (b) Eligibility to take. Persons who possess a valid hunting or furtaking license or persons who qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) are eligible to participate in the unlimited taking of feral swine and wild boar by firearm, bow or crossbow in any area where protection on feral swine and wild boar has been removed. All takings of feral swine and wild boar shall be conducted in conformance with the limitations of section 2308 of the act (relating to unlawful devices and methods) and §§ 141.4 and 141.20 (relating to hunting hours; protective material required).
- (c) Eligibility to trap. Persons who possess a valid hunting or furtaking license or persons who qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) are eligible to make application for a permit authorizing them to engage in feral swine and wild boar eradication trapping operations. All trapping of feral swine and wild boar shall be conducted in conformance with best management practices identified by the Commission and listed on the permit.
- (d) Reporting. All takings of feral swine and wild boar resulting from authorized shooting or trapping operations shall be reported to the appropriate local Commission Regional Office within 24 hours of kill. Reports shall include:
 - (1) Name, address and pertinent license or permit information.

(2) Date, time and an accurate description of the location of kill.
(3) Report number and sex of wild boar and feral swine.
(e) Surrender of carcass. The carcasses of feral swine and wild boar killed pursuant to the authorizations of this section shall be surrendered to the Commission for disease sampling and testing upon request.
(f) Importation prohibited. Effective July 1, 2013, it is unlawful to import feral swine or wild boar of any description or other name into this Commonwealth.
(g) Possession prohibited. Effective July 1, 2014, it is unlawful to possess feral swine or wild boar of any description or other name within this Commonwealth.
(h) Release into the wild prohibited. It is unlawful to release feral swine or wild boar into the wild.
(i) Inapplicability.
(1) This section shall not be construed in any manner to limit the applicability of sections 2121 and 2141 of the act (relating to killing game or wildlife to protect property; killing game or wildlife to protect person) and § 141.3 (relating to protection removed under certain circumstances).
(2) This section shall not be construed in any manner to extend to any member of the family suidae defined as a domestic animal by the Department of Agriculture and held as part of a commercial production agricultural operation regulated by the Department of Agriculture.
(j) Penalties. A person violating this section is subject to the penalties provided in the act.
Action:

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.4.

Commentary:

The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.4 to replace the current hunting hours table and migratory bird hunting hours table to accurately reflect the dates and hours of legal hunting for the 2013-2014 hunting license year. The Commission is also proposing to add feral swine and wild boar to the list of species that may be lawfully taken during the regular antlered and antlerless deer seasons and expand references to the seasons during which coyotes may be hunted to "big game" in order to maintain consistency with § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year).

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.4. Hunting hours.

Except as otherwise provided, wild birds and [animals] mammals may be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(1) During the regular antlered and antlerless deer seasons, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take other wild birds or mammals except game birds on regulated hunting grounds, migratory waterfowl, coyotes, <u>feral swine</u>, <u>wild boar</u>, and bear. Coyotes may be hunted from the first day to the last day inclusive of any [deer or bear] <u>big game</u> season only by persons who possess a valid furtaker's license, or by persons lawfully engaged in hunting [deer or bear] <u>big game</u> who have a valid tag. <u>Feral swine and wild boar may be taken from the first day to the last day inclusive of any big game season only by persons lawfully engaged in hunting big game who have a valid tag.</u>

* * * * *

(See Pennsylvania Meridian Map, Hunting Hours and Migratory Game Bird Hunting Hours Tables)

HUNTING HOURS TABLE FOR JUNE 30, 2013 THROUGH JULY 5, 2014

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
June 30 – July 6	5:09	9:02	Jan. 5 – 11	6:53	5:20
July 7 – 13	5:13	8:59	Jan. 12 – 18	6:51	5:27
July 14 – 20	5:19	8:55	Jan. 19 – 25	6:49	5:35
July 21 – 27	5:25	8:49	Jan. 26 – Feb. 1	6:44	5:43
July 28 – Aug. 3	5:31	8:42	Feb. $2 - 8$	6:38	5:51
Aug. 4 – 10	5:38	8:33	Feb. 9 – 15	6:31	6:00
Aug. 11 – 17	5:44	8:24	Feb. 16 – 22	6:22	6:08
Aug. 18 – 24	5:51	8:14	Feb. 23 – Mar. 1	6:13	6:14
Aug. 25 – 31	5:58	8:03	Mar. $2 - 8$	6:02	6:24
Sept 1 − 7	6:04	7:52	Mar. 9 – 15 *Begins	6:52	7:31
Sept. 8 – 14	6:11	7:41	Mar. 16 – 22	6:41	7:38
Sept. 15 – 21	6:17	7:29	Mar. 23 – 29	6:29	7:46
Sept. 22 – 28	6:24	7:17	Mar. 30 – Apr. 5	6:18	7:53
Sept. 29 – Oct. 5	6:31	7:06	Apr. 6 – 12	6:07	8:00
Oct. 6 – 12	6:38	6:55	Apr. 13 – 19	5:56	8:07
Oct. 13 – 19	6:45	6:45	Apr. $20 - 26$	5:46	8:14
Oct. $20 - 26$	6:53	6:35	Apr. 27 – May 3	5:36	8:20
Oct. 27 – Nov. 2	7:01	6:27	May $4 - 10$	5:27	8:28
Nov. $3 - 9 *Ends$	6:09	5:21	May 11 – 17	5:19	8:35
Nov. 10 – 16	6:17	5:13	May 18 – 24	5:13	8:42
Nov. 17 – 23	6:25	5:09	May $25 - 31$	5:08	8:48
Nov. 24 – 30	6:32	5:06	June 1 – 7	5:04	8:53
Dec. 1 – 7	6:39	5:05	June 8 – 14	5:02	8:58
Dec. 8 – 14	6:45	5:04	June 15 – 21	5:02	9:01
Dec. 15 – 21	6:49	5:09	June 22 – 28	5:04	9:03
Dec. 22 – 28	6:52	5:11	June 29 – July 5	5:08	9:02
Dec. 29 – Jan. 4	6:53	5:14	*Daylight Saving Time	2	

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING HOURS TABLE					
Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
Sept. 1 – 7	6:04	7:22	Dec. 29 – Jan. 4	6:53	4:44
Sept. 8 – 14	6:11	7:11	Jan. 5 – 11	6:53	4:50
Sept. 15 – 21	6:17	6:59	Jan. 12 – 18	6:51	4:57
Sept. 22 – 28	6:24	6:47	Jan. 19 – 25	6:49	5:05
Sept. 29 – Oct. 5	6:31	6:36	Jan. 26 – Feb. 1	6:44	5:13
Oct. $6 - 12$	6:38	6:25	Feb. $2 - 8$	6:38	5:21
Oct. $13 - 19$	6:45	6:15	Feb. 9 – 15	6:31	5:30
Oct. $20 - 26$	6:53	6:05	Feb. 16 – 22	6:22	5:38
Oct. 27 – Nov. 2	7:01	5:57	Feb. 23 – Mar. 1	6:13	5:44
Nov. $3 - 9 *Ends$	6:09	4:51	Mar. $2 - 8$	6:02	5:54
Nov. $10 - 16$	6:17	4:43	Mar. $9 - 15 * Begins$	6:52	7:01
Nov. $17 - 23$	6:25	4:39	Mar. 16 – 22	6:41	7:08
Nov. $24 - 30$	6:32	4:36	Mar. $23 - 29$	6:29	7:16
Dec. $1 - 7$	6:39	4:35	Mar. 30 – Apr. 5	6:18	7:23
Dec. $8 - 14$	6:45	4:34	Apr. 6 – 12	6:07	7:30
Dec. $15 - 21$	6:49	4:39	Apr. 13 – 19	5:56	7:37
Dec. $22 - 28$	6:52	4:41	*Daylight Saving Tim	e	

BUREAU OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

A. Create 58 Pa. Code § 143.12.

Commentary:

Proposed changes provide for future hunter education program flexibility. It will enable implementation of planned improvements to the hunter education replacement training certificate process by providing for online fulfillment capabilities. This will result in a significant improvement to customer service.

CHAPTER 143. HUNTING AND FURTAKER LICENSES

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§143.12. Hunter education training.

(b) Training certificate. The Commission will issue an appropriate certificate of training to each student who successfully completes an approved hunter education course. The Commission will issue a replacement hunter education training certificate to a person who provides sufficient affirmation or evidence of successful completion of that course of instruction. A certificate replacement [\$10] fee shall be remitted by any person requesting a replacement hunter education training certificate.

* * * * *

(d) Establishment of fees. The Director will establish the value of any course registration fee or certificate replacement fee required by this section.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

REAL ESTATE

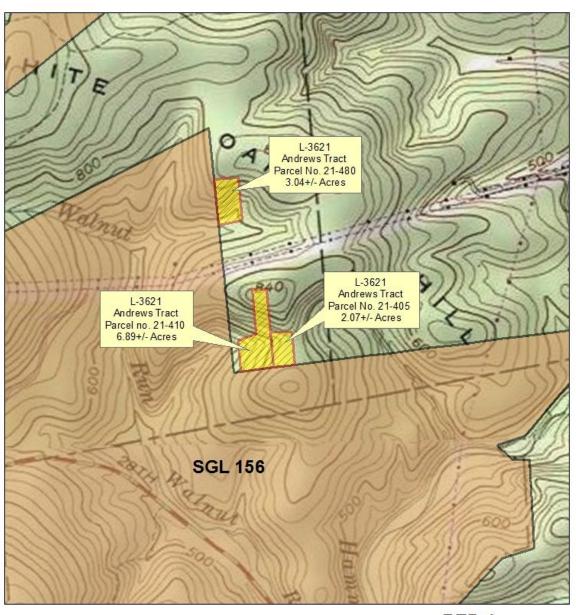
A. Donation

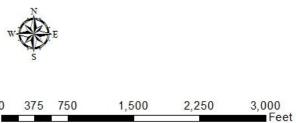
Contract No. 3621, State Game Land No. 156, Lebanon County

Commentary:

Gary L. and Kathy S. Andrews are offering a donation of 3 tracts comprised of 12 +/- acres of land in South Lebanon Township, Lebanon County adjoining State Game Land No. 156 (Exhibit RED 1). The 3 undeveloped parcels are forested with mixed hardwoods and have mountain laurel and blackberry in the understory.







RED 1
State Game Land No. 156
L-3621
Gary L. & Kathy S. Andrews Tract
to PGC
Parcel 21-405 2.07+/- Acres
Parcel 21-410 6.89+/- Acres
Parcel 21-480 3.04+/- Acres
South Lebanon Township
Lebanon County

Southeast Region

B. Acquisition

Contract No. 3622, State Game Land No. 314, Erie County

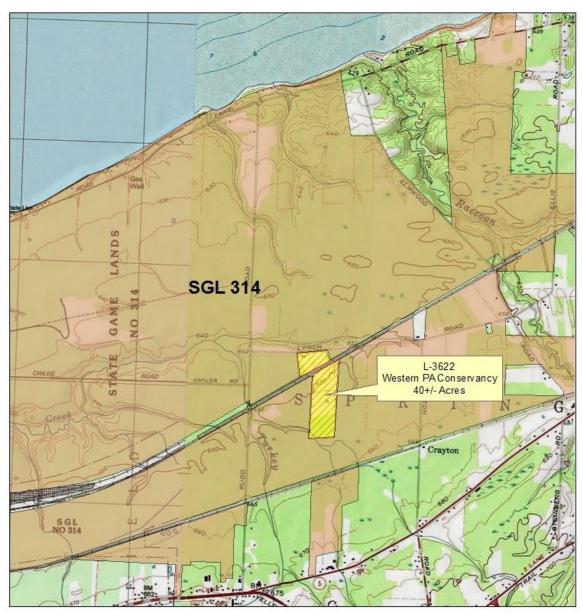
Commentary:

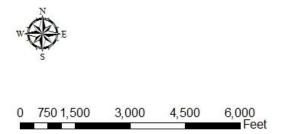
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy (WPC) is offering for sale 40 +/acres of land in Springfield Township, Erie County within State Game Land No. 314 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$41,912 lump sum, of which \$23,000 shall be paid from the Game Fund and the remainder shall be paid with funds from third party commitments for compensation of habitat and recreational losses which occurred on State Game Lands from previously approved projects. WPC is working in conjunction with U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire the property through funding available through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Joint Venture Habitat Restoration Protection Grant. Approximately 24 acres of the property are reverting old fields with woolgrass, staghorn sumac, silky dogwood and greenbrier. Thirteen acres of the tract are forested with northern hardwoods, predominately oak, red maple and ash with the remaining 3 acres in agricultural fields that are tillable in drier years. The property is located within an Important Bird Area and at least 3 species of special concern are located on or near the property. A Conrail Railroad right-of-way bisects the property. There is a small section of a tributary to Turkey Creek on the property. Access into the property is from Township Road 473, Lynch Road. The Commission and WPC have mutually agreed that no use of the surface for oil and gas exploration, production, removal or sale shall be allowed on the property.

Contract No. 3623, State Game Land No. 61, McKean County

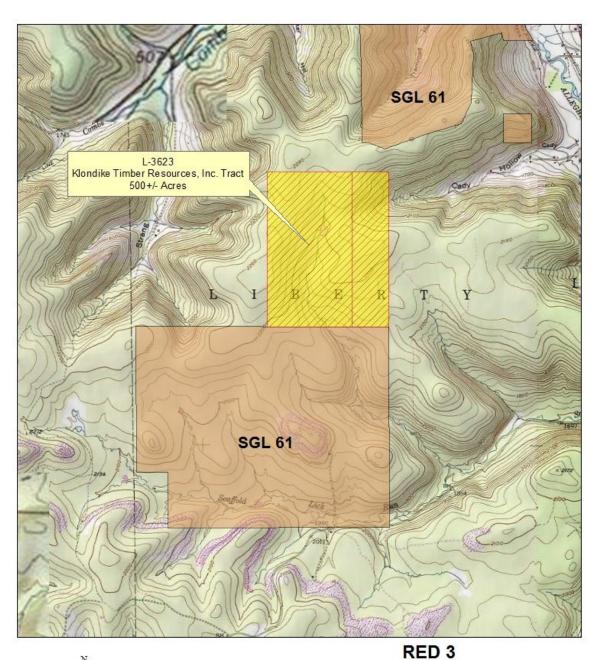
Commentary:

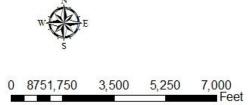
Klondike Timber Resources, Inc. is offering for sale 500 +/- acres of land in Liberty Township, McKean County adjoining State Game Land No. 61 (Exhibit RED 3). The option price is \$400,000 lump sum to be paid with funds from third party commitments for compensation of habitat and recreational losses which occurred on State Game Lands from previously approved projects. There is excellent regenerating northern hardwoods forest habitat with small natural openings. All timber, except conifers, is reserved until January 1, 2015. During this time period the holder of the timber reservation will consult with the Commission with regard to the placement of any new roads and log landings and shall revegetate and reseed new roads and log landings per Commission specifications. The headwaters of Scaffold Lick Run are located on the property and there is a wetland pond in the middle of the tract. There is access to the property from a deeded right-of-way 30' wide from Township Road T-408, Strang Hollow Road.





RED 2 State Game Land No. 314 L-3622 Western PA Conservancy "Bradley Estate Tract" to PGC 40+/- Acres Springfield Township Erie County Northwest Region





State Game Land No. 61 L-3623 Klondike Timber Resources, Inc. Tract to PGC 500+/- Acres Liberty Township McKean County Northcentral Region

Contract No. 3624, State Game Land No. 323, Centre County

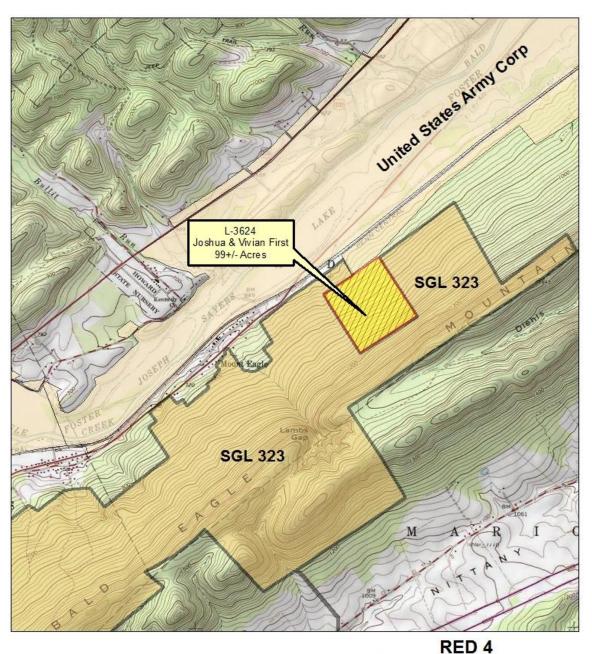
Commentary:

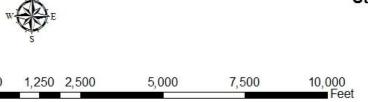
Joshua and Vivian First are offering for sale 99 +/- acres of land in Howard Township, Centre County, an interior property in State Game Land No. 323 (Exhibit RED 4). The option price is \$315,000 lump sum, which shall be paid with escrowed funds from a prior land exchange on State Game Land No. 176 with the Pennsylvania State University and requires approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The property is adjacent to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Foster Joseph Sayers Dam property and near Bald Eagle State Park. The property is made up of early successional forested habitat. Access into the property is from a 15' and a 50' width right-of-way which leads to Old Route 220, Township Road 663.

Contract No. 3625, State Game Land No. 281, Perry County

Commentary:

Earl F. Evans Estate is offering for sale 46 +/- acres of land in Miller Township, Perry County located within State Game Land No. 281 (Exhibit RED 5). The option price is \$127,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund. The tract is forested with mixed northern hardwoods and an unnamed stream runs across the northern edge of the property, onto existing State Game Land and into the Juniata River. There is access from a 50' wide right-of-way from Township Road T-449.





State Game Land No. 323

L-3624

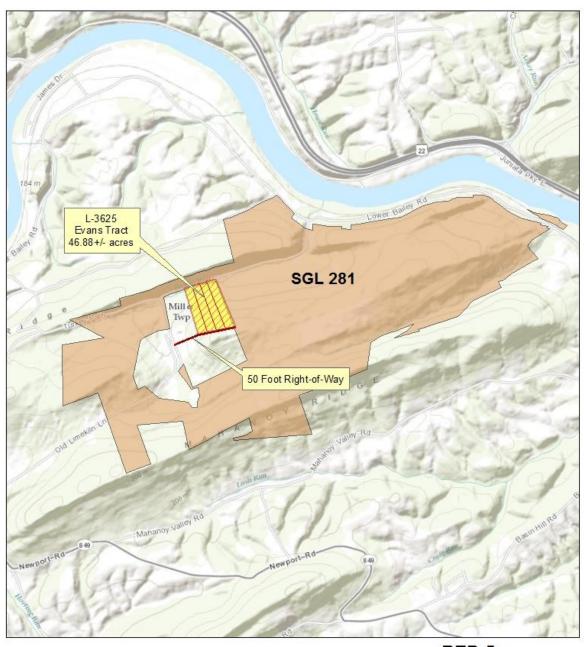
Joshua & Vivian First Tract

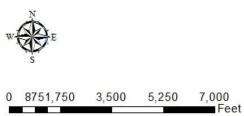
to PGC

99+/- Acres

Howard Township

Howard Township Centre County Northcentral Region





RED 5
State Game Land No. 281
L-3625
Earl F. Evans Estate
to PGC
46.88+/- Acres
Miller Township
Perry County
Southcentral Region

C. Land Exchange

Contract No. 3626, State Game Land No. 79, Cambria County

Commentary:

The Southwest Region has requested a land exchange with B & A Development Company to construct a road and parking lot for hunters on State Game Land No. 79 in Cambria Township, Cambria County (Exhibit RED 6). In the exchange, B & A Development Company acquires 0.43 acres from State Game Land No. 79 to increase the area behind their property and the Commission gains 0.43 acres from B & A Development Company to include road frontage along Township Road 450, Allie Buck Road. This land exchange will allow for much needed access into a portion of State Game Land No. 79 which is currently inaccessible.

Contract No. 3627, State Game Land No. 302, Washington County

Commentary:

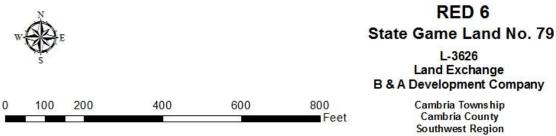
Williams Ohio Valley Midstream, LLC is offering 167 +/- acres located near State Game Land No. 302, West Finley Township, Washington County (Exhibit RED 7) in lieu of habitat and surface damages for a right-of-way license that will allow Williams Ohio Valley Midstream, LLC, the privilege of constructing a 12" gas pipeline across State Game Land No. 245, West Finley Township, Washington County (Exhibit RED 8). The property is forested with mixed hardwoods. Access is from Jackson Road. The pipeline will be on a right-of-way 75' wide with an additional 25' in width for temporary construction area and will traverse approximately 5,339' through State Game Land No. 245 along with the use of approximately 4,495' of existing roadway needed to construct and maintain the pipeline.

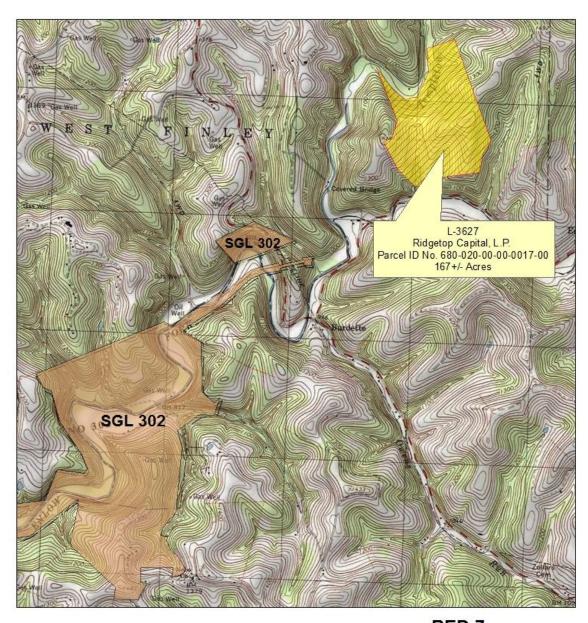
Contract No. 3628, State Game Land No. 46, Lancaster County

Commentary:

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has agreed to transfer exclusive jurisdiction and control of a 2.688 +/- acre indenture into State Game Land No. 46, Elizabeth and Clay Townships, Lancaster County (Exhibit RED 9). In exchange, Penn DOT is proposing the creation of a State Game Land Bank for their District 8-0 service area to offset permanent impacts to existing State Game Lands from future highway projects. The property is forested with mixed hardwoods and Seglock Run flows the length of the property. Access is from both Laurel Drive to the north and Seglock Road.







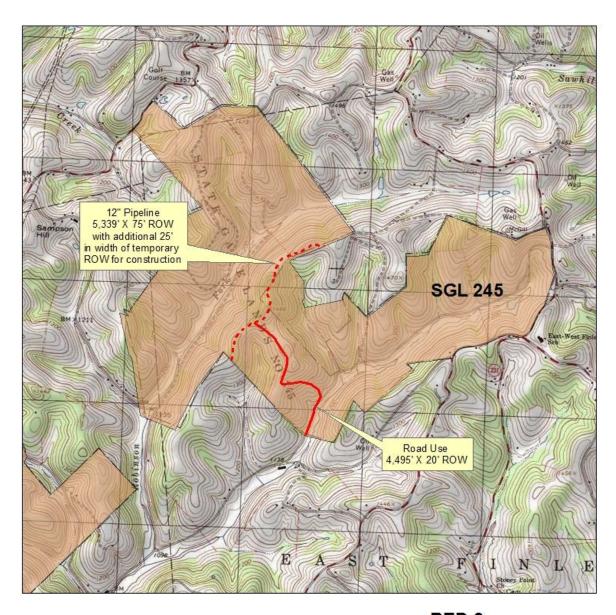


RED 7 State Game Land No. 302

L-3627 Ridgetop Capital, L.P. tract to PGC Parcel ID No. 680-020-00-00-0017-00 167+/- Acres

0 1,000 2,000 4,000 6,000 8,000 Feet

West Finley Township Washington County Southwest Region



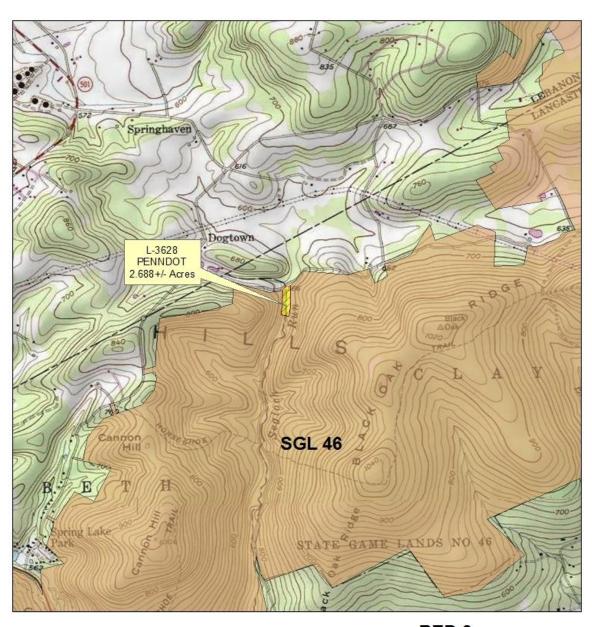


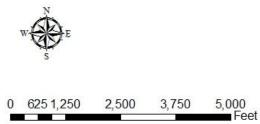
0 750 1,500 3,000 4,500 6,000 Feet

RED 8 State Game Land No. 245

L-3627
Land Exchange with
Ridgetop Capital, L.P. to allow
Williams Ohio Valley Midstream, LLC
for the
Construction of Pipelines

West Finley Township Washington County Southwest Region





RED 9 State Game Land No. 46 L-3628 PENNDOT "Shuey Tract" to PGC 2.688+/- Acres Elizabeth & Clay Townships Lancaster County Southeast Region

D. Notational Vote

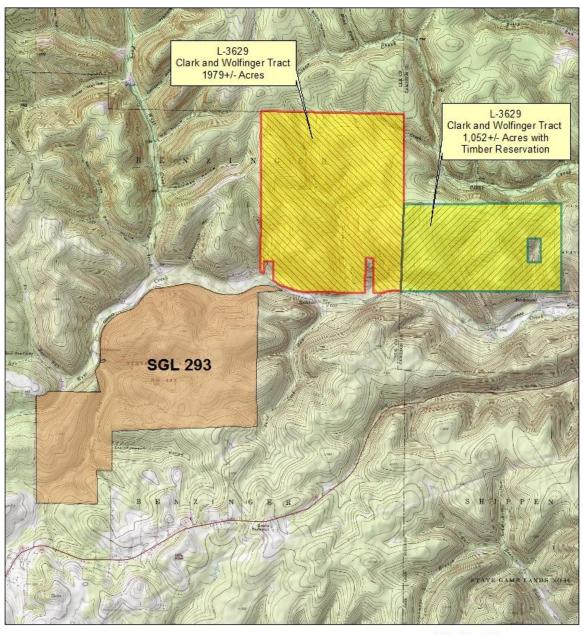
Contract 3629, State Game Land No. 293, Elk and Cameron Counties

Commentary:

The following item was voted on notationally and was voted 7-0. Carl G. Clark and Estelle Clark, husband and wife, and Harold H. Wolfinger and Connie Wolfinger, husband and wife, offered for sale three tracts of land totaling 3,031 +/- acres of land in Elk and Cameron Counties (Exhibit RED 10). Two tracts, a 982-acre tract and a 997.2-acre tract are in the City of Saint Marys, Elk County and adjoin State Game Land No. 293 and the third, a 1,052-acre tract in Shippen Township, Cameron County adjoins Elk State Forest. The option price was \$3,000,000 lump sum to be paid with funds from third party commitments for compensation of habitat and recreational losses which occurred on State Game Lands from previously approved projects. The property is predominately forested with mixed hardwoods and harbors Little Clear Creek, Seeley Hollow Run, and several other clean water tributaries and associated riparian corridors. The sellers are reserving on the Cameron County 1,052-acre tract, all timber, not to include conifers, birch and beech upon the land with the right to cut and remove said timber until January 1, 2019. The Sellers requested the Commission purchase the property by December 31, 2012.

Action:

This is an information item, no action is required.





0 2,000 4,000 8,000 12,000 16,000 Feet

RED 10 State Game Land No. 293

L-3629
Clark and Wolfinger Tracts
to PGC
3,031+/- Acres
City of St. Marys, Elk County
Shippen Township, Cameron County
Northcentral Region

E. Purchase of Property at Tax Sale

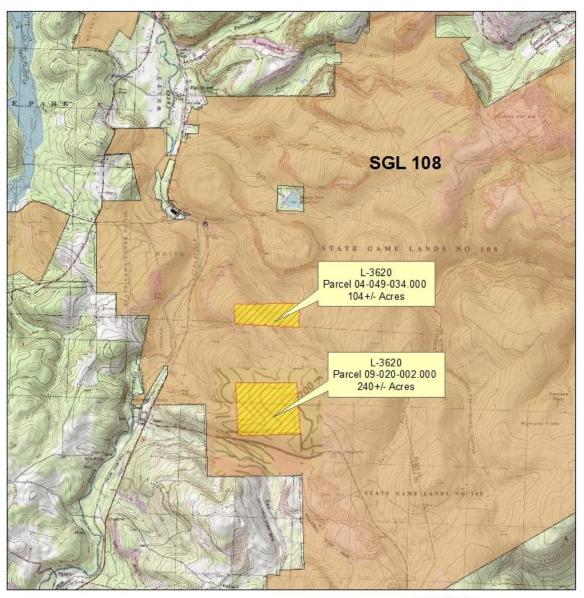
Contract 3620, State Game Land No. 108, Cambria County

Commentary:

Subject to certain limitations, § 135.241 of 58 Pa. Code authorizes the Director to bid on real estate, oil, gas or mineral rights at auction or tax sale and to request down payment checks to bid on property at auction. Successful bids must be made known to the general public at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners. On August 17, 2012, the Commission was the successful bidder at a tax sale held at the Cambria County Courthouse and purchased the mineral rights on two tracts located within State Game Land No. 108 in Reade and Dean Townships, Cambria County. The Game Commission acquired parcel number 04-049-034.000, 104 acres of "C" coal seam for \$5,000: and parcel number 09-020-002.000, 240 acres of all minerals except the "C" coal seam for \$1,200 (Exhibit RED 11).

Action:

This is an information item, no action is required.





0 1,7503,500 7,000 10,500 14,000 Feet

RED 11 State Game Land No. 108

L-3620 Cambria County Tax Claim Parcel 04-049-034.000 104+/- Acres Parcel 09-020-002.00 240+/- Acres Minerals Only

> Reade & Dean Townships Cambria County Southwest Region

F. Settlement of Dispute

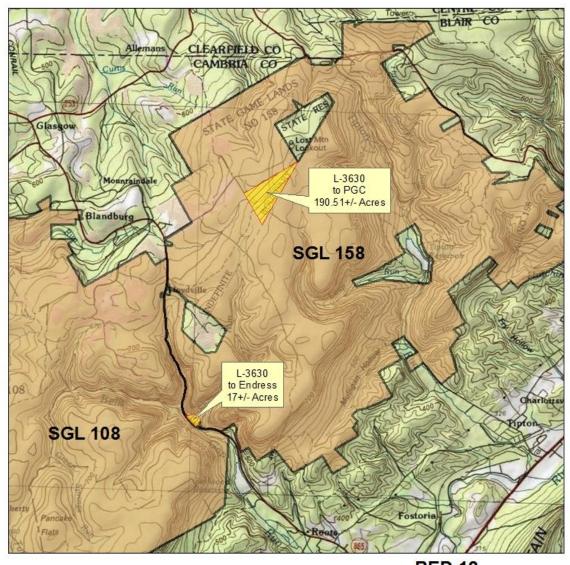
State Game Land No. 158, Cambria and Blair Counties

Commentary:

Before the Commission is a proposed settlement of a dispute whereby the Commission will quitclaim 17 +/- acres, to Michael Endress in return for a quitclaim from Mr. Endress with regard to approximately 190 acres, an interior to State Game Land No. 158 in Reade Township, Cambria County (Exhibit RED 12).

A Quiet Title action has been filed by the Commission against Mr. Endress. Mr. Endress has proposed a land exchange to settle the dispute and vest full title in 190 +/- acres of land to the Commission. This settlement will entail the granting to Mr. Endress of 17 +/- acres (Exhibit RED 12).





RED 12

State Game Land No. 158

L-3630

Cambria County Commissioners
"Endress Adverse Possession Claim"
190.51+/- Acres to PGC
17+/- Acres to Endress

Reade Township Cambria County Southwest Region



0 3,000 6,000 12,000 18,000 24,000 Feet

OIL/GAS & MINERALS

G. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

Tract 232A-12, State Game Land No. 232, Washington County

Commentary:

The Commission offered its oil and gas ownership under a portion of State Game Land No. 232 in Donegal and Independence Townships, Washington County, for non-surface use oil and gas development by a competitive royalty bid. Tract 232A-12 (Exhibit OGM 1), containing approximately 1,201.33 acres, was announced for competitive royalty bid in October 2012, with a one-time bonus/rental payment of \$2,500 per acre for a one year paid up primary term agreement. The minimum royalty was set at 18% for all oil, gas, and condensate produced and sold from under the premises.

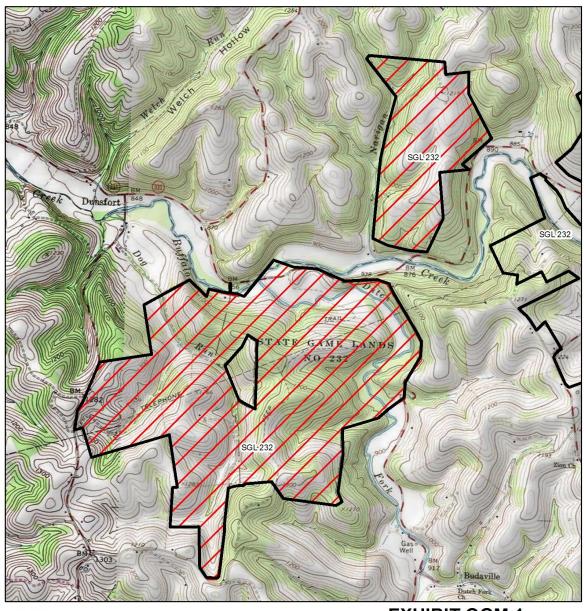
Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas Regulations and the Commission's Standard Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement. The bonus payment of \$3,003,325 shall be deposited into the Game Fund or an interest bearing escrow account for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands, or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management.

Bids were opened on November 2, 2012, with Chesapeake Appalachia, L.L.C. of Oklahoma City, OK, submitting the highest royalty bid of 23.25% of the value of oil, gas, and condensate produced and sold from under the premises. The results of the royalty bid are listed below:

BIDDER

BID ROYALTY

Chesapeake Appalachia, L.L.C.	23.25%
Range Resources	20.0%



Non-Surface Use Agreement Area (1,201.33 +/- Acres)

State Game Land No. 232

W E 0 2,000 4,000 Feet

EXHIBIT OGM 1State Game Land No. 232

Restricted Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Chesapeake Appalachia, L.L.C.
Tract 232A-12
1,201.33 +/- Acres

Donegal and Independence Twp., Washington County Southwest Region

H. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

Tract 150A-12, State Game Land No. 150, Lawrence County

Commentary:

The Commission offered its oil and gas ownership under State Game Land No. 150 in Pulaski Township, Lawrence County, for non-surface use oil and gas development by a competitive royalty bid. Tract 150A-12 (Exhibit OGM 2), containing approximately 586.007 acres, was announced for competitive royalty bid in October 2012, with a one time bonus/rental payment of \$3,250 per acre for a 5 year paid up agreement, and a minimum bid of 20% royalty.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's oil and gas regulations and the Commission's Standard Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement. The bonus payment of \$1,904,522.75 shall be deposited into the Game Fund or an interest bearing escrow account for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands, or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management.

Bids for this tract were opened on November 8, 2012, with HilCorp Energy Company of Houston, Texas, submitting the highest royalty bid of 20% of the value of oil, gas, and condensate produced and sold from under the premises. The results of the royalty bid are listed below:

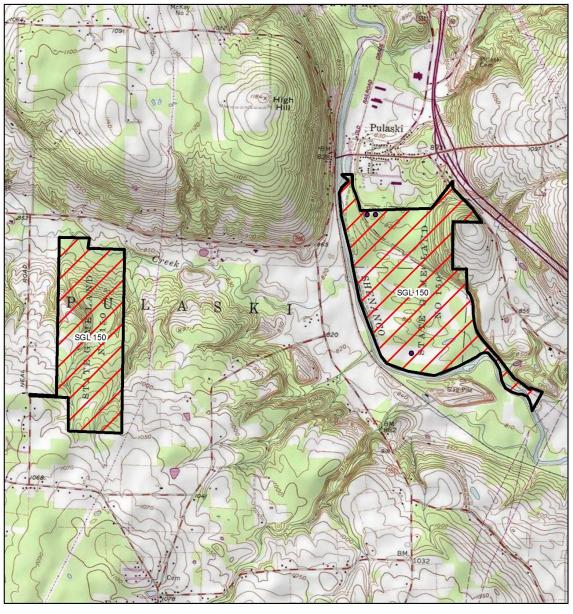
BIDDER

BID ROYALTY

Hilcorp Energy Company

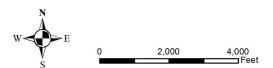
20%

No other bids received



Non-Surface Use Agreement Area (586.007 +/- Acres)

State Game Land No. 150



State Game Land No. 150
Restricted Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
HilCorp Energy Company
Tract 150A-12
586.007 +/- Acres

Pulaski Twp., Lawrence County Northwest Region

I. Underground Mine Surface Support Lease Amendment

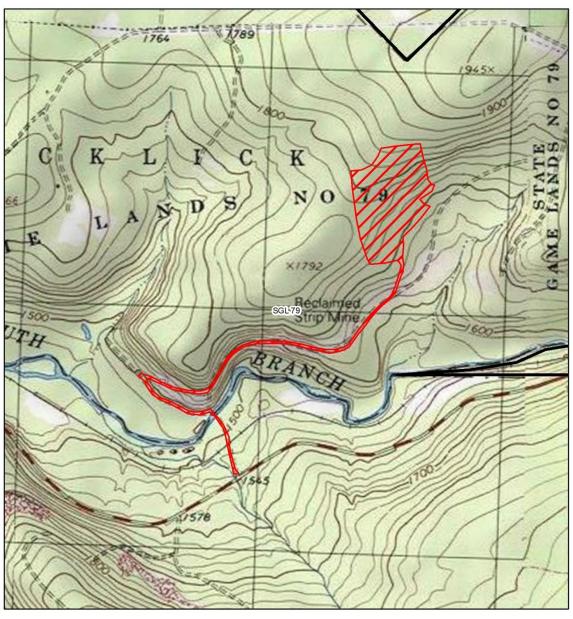
Tract 079A-98, State Game Land No. 79, Cambria County

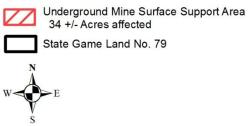
Commentary:

Rosebud Mining Company (Rosebud) of Kittanning, PA has requested an amendment to extend the existing underground mining agreement with the Commission for an additional 5 year period in order to continue underground coal mine operations and remove an estimated 700,000 tons of remaining coal reserves. All terms and conditions of the original lease remain the same and deep mine operations will continue with all rights as previously granted (Exhibit OGM 3). There will be no additional surface impacts to the game land. Rosebud will continue to pay wheelage to the Commission at a rate of 1% of the F.O.B. pit price of all coal removed from beneath and transported over State Game Land No. 79.

The Commission and Martin L. Bearer, t/d/b/a North Cambria Fuel Company consummated a 15 year lease agreement dated March 3, 1998. The lease was transferred to Rosebud Mining Company on October 14, 2009. The existing lease will expire on March 3, 2013, however, Rosebud estimates that underground mining activities will continue for another 3 to 5 years and, therefore requests a 5 year extension to the term of the lease. If approved, the expiration date of the lease will be March 3, 2018.

Mining will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Mining Regulations and the Commission's existing lease agreement. In addition, the lease includes a wildlife habitat reclamation and revegetation plan developed by the local Land Management Group Supervisor.





2,000

1,000

EXHIBIT OGM 3 State Game Land No. 79 Underground Mine Surface Support Lease Amendment Rosebud Mining Company Tract 079A-98 143.65 +/- Acres

Blacklick Twp., Cambria County Southwest Region

J. Oil and Gas Lease Amendment

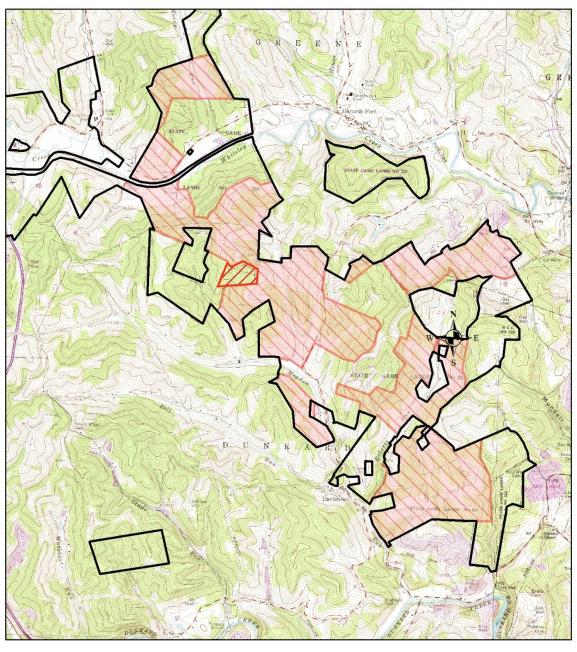
Tract 223A-08, State Game Land No. 223, Greene County

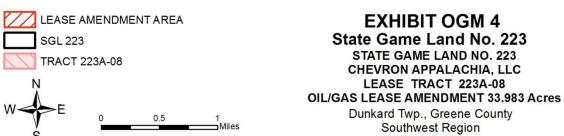
Commentary:

Chevron Appalachia, LLC (Chevron) has requested to amend an existing Commission approved Oil and Gas Lease for Tract 223A-08 in Dunkard Township, Greene County. Tract 223A-08 is located on a portion of State Game Land No. 223 and currently consists of 2,031 acres. Chevron proposes to amend the lease by adding an additional 33.983 acres to the agreement (Exhibit OGM 4). The Commission owns the surface and 50% of the underlying oil and gas rights. Chevron has leased the privately owned oil and gas rights and agreed to non-surface use on this portion of the game land.

The terms and conditions of the lease will remain consistent with the existing agreement, approved by the Commission in April 2008, except the bonus payment will be increased from \$125 per acre to \$1,500 per acre for the amended acreage. The bonus payment shall be deposited into the Game Fund or an interest bearing escrow account for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands, or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking and wildlife resource management.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas regulations and the Commission's existing Oil/Gas Lease Agreement which is currently in place.





K. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement Tract 75A-12, State Game Land No. 75, Lycoming County

Commentary:

Pennsylvania General Energy Company, L.L.C. (PGE) of Warren, Pennsylvania requests the Commission offer its oil and gas ownership under a portion of State Game Land No. 75 for oil and gas development. The proposed tract 75A-12, containing approximately 11,899 +/- acres is located in McHenry and Pine Townships, Lycoming County (Exhibit OGM 5).

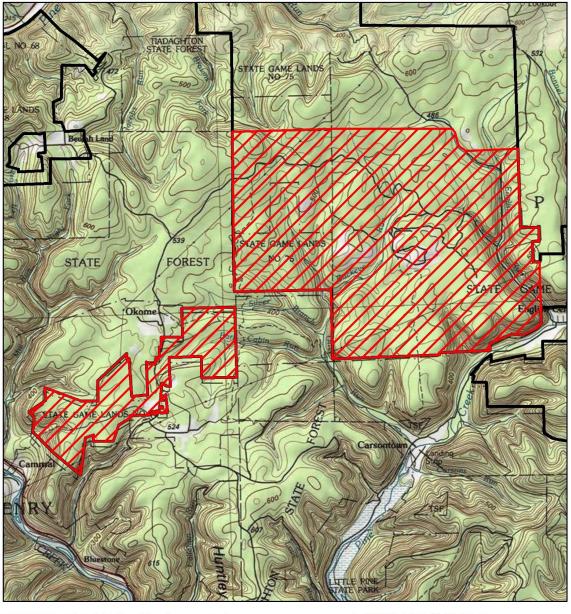
PGE is currently developing oil and gas rights on the State Forest tracts south of the proposed tract and has infrastructure in place, including water and gas pipelines that will ease the surface burden of developing the Game Land acreage.

In exchange for the oil and gas agreement, PGE will cause to convey to the Commission the Kinzua Tract, a 6,200 +/- acre tract of land adjacent to State Game Land No. 62 in Keating Township, McKean County (Exhibit OGM 6).

The primary term of the Agreement is for 10 years, with a 5 year provision for drilling the first well. If PGE does not meet its drilling commitment, the Commission may request the surrender of the 1,836 +/- acre western portion of the tract at the end of the 10 years. The initial royalty rate for each well will be set at 18% and will increase to 21% once payout costs are met.

The proposed agreement also provides PGE with the right to utilize the surface of State Game Land No. 75 for drilling pads, access roads and pipelines to transport Commission owned gas reserves at locations approved by the Commission. PGE will adhere to the reclamation and revegetation requirements as specified by the Agreement and Department of Environmental Protection regulations. PGE has also agreed to meet annually to discuss development and to solicit input and suggestions to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Oil and Gas Regulations, the Commission's Standard Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Development Agreement protection provisions and \$50,000 performance bond. The agreement will include the Commission's standard wildlife and environmental protection measures.



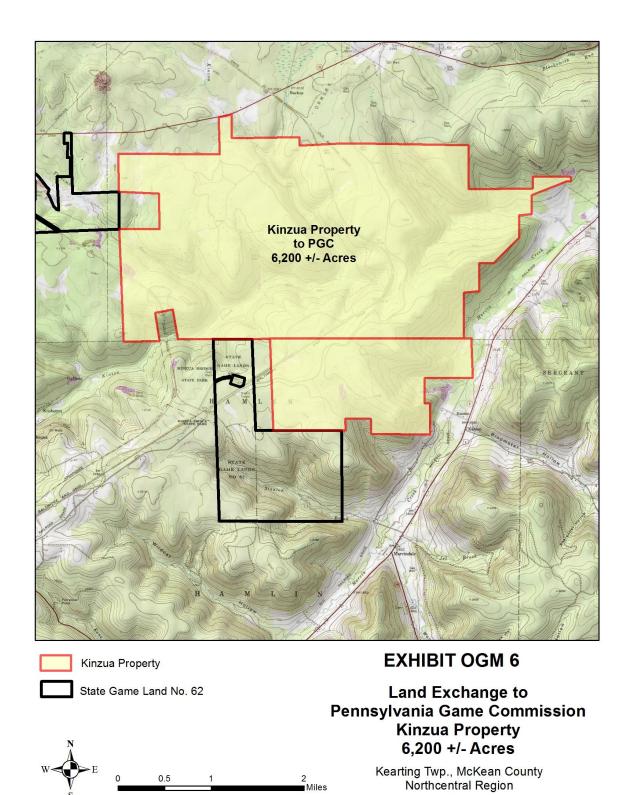
Restricted Surface Use Agreement Area 11,899 +/- Acres

State Game Land No. 75

W E 0 0.5 1 2 Miles

EXHIBIT OGM 5
State Game Land No. 75
Restricted Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Pensylvania General Energy Company, L.L.C.
Tract 75A-12
11,899 +/- Acres

McHenry & Pine Twps., Lycoming County Northcentral Region



Other New Business

Proposed Commission Meeting Dates:

April 15 and 16, 2013 June 24 and 25, 2013 Sept. 23 and 24, 2013

Election of Officers

Executive Session, if necessary, will be held immediately following the close of the Commission Meeting.

Adjournment

