COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



AGENDA HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA January 28, 2014

> R. Matthew Hough 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 28, 2014 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

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

Approval of Minutes of Commission Meeting held September 24, 2013.

BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION

ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to Chapter 143, Subchapter B.

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

Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its June 25, 2013, meeting to amend Chapter 143, Subchapter B (relating to appointment of agents) to eliminate the late fees for late agent applications and also to make

housekeeping amendments to related text.

EXHIBIT "A"

CHAPTER 143. HUNTING AND FURTAKER LICENSES

Subchapter B. APPOINTMENT OF AGENTS

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- 143.21. Appointment of agents.
- 143.22. Rebate for first year agents.
- 143.23. Minimum sales requirement.
- 143.24. Fee for reapplication.
- 143.25. Rebate restrictions.
- 143.26. Time for rebate.
- 143.27. Conditions for appointment.
- 143.28. Application period.
- 143.29. (Reserved).
- 143.30. Return of disapproved applications.
- 143.31. Agencies at separate locations.

§ 143.21. Appointment of agents.

A person desiring appointment as an agent shall apply to the Commission on the form provided. An application fee of \$500 is required for each location, in the form of a negotiable check or money order payable to "Pennsylvania Game Commission." The completed application, along with the application fee, shall be forwarded to: Pennsylvania Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797.

§ 143.22. Rebate for first year agents.

- (a) An agent shall be entitled to a rebate based upon his first license year only sales as follows:
 - (1) Rebate \$100 if 250 licenses are sold.
 - (2) Rebate \$200 if 500 licenses are sold.
 - (3) Rebate \$300 if 750 licenses are sold.
 - (4) Rebate \$400 if 1,000 licenses are sold.
 - (b) A rebate will not be given after the first license year of sales.

§ 143.23. Minimum sales requirement.

To continue as an agent, a minimum of 200 hunting licenses shall be sold each license year. Qualifying licenses, for the purpose of calculating 200 hunting licenses, will be the regular resident, nonresident hunting and furtakers licenses. Archery, muzzleloader, bear, special wild turkey, migratory game bird and replacement licenses are not included as qualifying licenses. In addition, an agent shall continue to meet the requirements in § 143.27 (relating to conditions for appointment).

§ 143.24. Fee for reapplication.

If an agent sells less than the required 200 qualifying licenses in a given license year, and is removed by the Commission, or if an agent voluntarily withdraws, a subsequent reapplication requires payment of the application fee.

§ 143.25. Rebate restrictions.

A rebate will not be granted if the agent is delinquent in remitting moneys as required.

§ 143.26. Time for rebate.

Rebate to the agent will be credited to his account at the beginning of the license year following his first year as an agent.

§ 143.27. Conditions for appointment.

A person desiring consideration for appointment as an agent shall meet the following conditions:

- (1) Be a resident of this Commonwealth or an entity registered to do business in this Commonwealth.
- (2) Operate a bona fide sporting goods sales outlet where the public expects to find this service.
- (3) Be open to the public during reasonable daylight and evening hours.
 - (4) Not operate on a seasonal or part-time basis.
- (5) Agree to and demonstrate ability to provide full license service and cooperation to the public throughout the entire license sales period, and keep records required by the Commission and by statute.
- (6) Provide security to the Commission in an amount of at least \$18,000.

§ 143.28. Application period.

(a) A person requesting appointment as an agent shall submit the appropriate completed application form to the Commission in Harrisburg during the period November 1 through March 31 of the following year to be eligible for appointment as an issuing agent for the license year beginning the following July 1.

(b) An application received outside of the application period is not guaranteed to be processed by the Commission before the start of the license year beginning July 1.

§ 143.29. (Reserved).

§ 143.30. Return of disapproved applications.

Disapproved applicants will be notified in a timely manner, and the entire \$500 application fee will be returned.

§ 143.31. Agencies at separate locations.

An agent desiring to operate an agency at additional locations shall meet the requirements in this subchapter.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

ADOPTED RULEMAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 133.21.

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

Game Commission proposed at its September 24, 2013 meeting to amend § 133.21 (relating to classification of birds) by removing the bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) from the list of threatened bird species in the

Commonwealth.

EXHIBIT "A"

CHAPTER 133. WILDLIFE CLASSIFICATION

Subchapter B. BIRDS

§ 133.21. Classification of birds.

The following birds are classified:

* * * * *

(2) Threatened.

- (i) Osprey (Pandion haliaetus)
- (ii) Northern Harrier (Circus cyaneus)
- (iii) Long-eared Owl (Asio otus)

B. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 147.673.

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

Game Commission proposed at its September 24, 2013 meeting to amend § 147.673 (relating to eligibility and application for DMAP) to change the

DMAP application deadline.



EXHIBIT "B"

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL

DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PERMITS

§ 147.673. Eligibility and application for DMAP.

* * * * *

(1) Applications shall be submitted to a regional office by May 1 immediately preceding the first fall deer season and include the name of the owner, lessee, political subdivision or government agency that is applying for the DMAP and the name and address of the contact person for the DMAP as well as other information required on the application.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

C. 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 2014-2015 license year. The 2014-2015 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.

Several changes in hunting seasons and bag limits, when compared with the 2013-2014 regulations, are being proposed. First, it is proposed that small game field possession limits be increased to three (3) times the daily bag. Migratory game bird possession limits were increased to three times the daily bag limit for the 2013-14 hunting season. This proposed change will make small game possession limits consistent with those for migratory game birds and provide increased hunting opportunity, particularly for non-resident hunters.

Staff have proposed to reduce the 2014 fall turkey seasons in WMUs 3A, 3B and 3C from 3 weeks to 2 weeks, while retaining the 3-day Thanksgiving hunt segment. Population indices have been showing decreasing trends in each of these WMUs over the last 4 to 5 years. Low spring harvest densities, decreases in poult recruitment and summer sighting survey data also reflect declines warranting this action, which is consistent with guidelines in the Wild Turkey Management Plan. In all cases, a one-week reduction in the first fall segment of the season is advised over elimination of the 3-day Thanksgiving season segment because it is likely to achieve a greater reduction in harvest.

Also in regard to fall turkey seasons, it is proposed that the WMU 5A season be maintained at 3-days but shifted from midweek to a Thursday-Saturday framework. The turkey population in this WMU remains low, but is higher than prior to the season closure and flocks are well distributed. Including a Saturday in the 3-day season is expected to increase hunter opportunity and satisfaction and was recommended by the WMU 5A Wild Turkey Task Force.

Staff has suggested adding WMUs 2C & 4B to the Wednesday through Saturday extended bear season that runs concurrent with deer season. WMU 2C has had a slightly increasing bear population trend, highway mortalities of bears also have been slowly increasing and there has been a noticeable increase in human-bear conflicts. WMU 4B also has had an increasing trend in human-bear conflicts with several incidents in recent years involving home entry or injury to pets and people. Vehicle mortalities of bears also has generally increased Furthermore, harvest, which typically correlates well with annual population monitoring, has steadily increased by approximately 20% annually since 2003.

Concerning furbearers, staff has proposed adding WMUs 1B and 3C to the fisher trapping season based on increased numbers of incidental captures and sightings during the past 3 years. Finally, it is proposed that all references to regulated harvest of skunks should specify the "striped skunk." Spotted skunks, a species of conservation concern, have a very limited distribution and low abundance in southwestern counties in Pennsylvania and should be excluded from any regulated harvest.

"EXHIBIT C"

(SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)

2014-2015 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 Second Day
Squirrels (Combined species) – Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 17	6	18
Squirrels (Combined species)	Oct. 18 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24	6	18
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 18 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24	2	6
Rabbits, Cottontail – Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	4	12
Rabbits, Cottontail	Oct. 25 and Dec. 15 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24	4	12

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. The Director is authorized to open the pheasant season via executive order in a designated wild pheasant recovery area if the agency is unsuccessful in its efforts to acquire and release wild pheasants.

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
Ring-necked Pheasant – Male only in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A & 5B Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 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. 11	Oct. 18	2	6
Ring-necked Pheasant – Male only in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A & 5B	Oct. 25	Nov. 29	2	6
III WINES 21, 20, 40, 42, 31 to 35	Dec. 15	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2015		
Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D,	Oct. 25	Nov. 29	2	6
5C & 5D	Dec. 15	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2015		
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. 25	Nov. 29	4	12
Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares in WMUs 3B, 3C & 3D	Dec. 26	Dec. 29	1	3
Hares (Snowshoe Rabbits) or Varying Hares in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 1, 2015	1	3
Woodchucks (Groundhog)	No closed season ex regular firearms dee on Sundays is prohi	er seasons. Hunting	Unlimit	ed

Porcupines	Sep. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	3	10
Season closed during the overlap with				
the regular firearms deer seasons.				

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Wild Turkey – Male or Female			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow & Arrow only)	Nov. 1	Nov. 21		
(Shotgan, Bow & Filtow only)	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMU 1B	Nov. 1	Nov. 8		
	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMUs 1A, 2A, 2D, 2F, 2G, 2H,	Nov. 1	Nov. 15		
3A, 3B & 3C	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMUs 2C, 2E, 3D, 4A,	Nov. 1	Nov. 21		
4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Nov. 27	Nov. 29		
WMU 5A	Nov. 6	Nov. 8		
WMUs 5B, 5C & 5D	Closed to fall turkey	hunting		
Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide ¹ Bearded Bird only			1	2
	May 2, 2015	May 16, 2015	May be hunted ½ he sunrise to 12 noon	our before
	and			
	May 18, 2015	May 30, 2015	May be hunted ½ hour af	
Wild Turkey (Spring Gobbler) Statewide Youth Bearded Bird only Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and when properly accompanied	Hunt ¹ April 25, 2	2015	1	1

when properly accompanied

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 4	April 5, 2015	Unl	imited
Starlings and English Sparrows	No closed seaso regular firearms	n except during the deer seasons.	Unl	imited

FALCONRY

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
Squirrels – (Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	6	18
Quail	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
Ruffed Grouse	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6
Cottontail Rabbits	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	4	12
Snowshoe or Varying Hare	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	1	3
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male and Female (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2015	2	6

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. 4	Nov. 15	One antlered and an antlerless deer
	Dec. 26	Jan. 10, 2015	with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlerless) WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sep. 20	Oct. 3	An antlerless deer with each required
	Nov. 17	Nov. 29	antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Jan. 12, 2015	Jan. 24, 2015	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. 1	Dec. 13	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered only) ² WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 1	Dec. 5	One antlered deer.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered & Antlerless) ² WMUs 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3B, 3C, 4B, 4D & 4E	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	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 Force or in the U.S. Coast Guard, with required antlerless license	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only) (Statewide)	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Jan. 10, 2015	One antlered, or one antlerless-plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

WHITE-TAILED DEER – (Continued)

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Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) ² WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless) Counties of Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery & Philadelphia	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2015	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 permitteestablished by the UDepartment of the	Jnited States	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

BLACK BEAR

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Bear, Archery only ⁴ (Statewide)	Nov. 17	Nov. 21	1	1
Bear, Archery only ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5C & 5D	Sep. 20	Nov. 15	1	1
Bear, Archery only ⁴ WMU 5B	Oct. 4	Nov. 15	1	1
<i>Bear, Muzzleloader</i> ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	1	1
Bear, Special Firearms ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D Junior & Senior License holders, disabled and PA residents on active duty in armed services	Oct. 23	Oct. 25	1	1
Bear, Regular Firearms ⁴ (Statewide)	Nov. 22	Nov. 26	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 2C, 4B, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 3	Dec. 6	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C & 5D	Dec. 1	Dec. 13	1	1
Bear, Extended Firearms ⁴ WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, & 3D	Dec. 1	Dec. 6	1	1

ELK

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Elk, Regular ⁵ (Antlered & Antlerless)	Nov. 3	Nov. 8	1	One e1k with required license
Elk, Extended ⁵ (Antlered & Antlerless)	Nov. 10	Nov. 15	1	One e1k with required license

FURTAKING - TRAPPING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Minks and Muskrats (Statewide)	Nov. 22	Jan. 4, 2015	Unlim	ited
Beaver (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2015		
WMUs 1A, 1B, & 3C (Combined)			20	40
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C & 5D	(Combined)		20	20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, & 5B (Comb	ined)		5	5
Coyotes, Foxes, Opossums, Raccoons, Striped Skunks, Weasels - (Statewide)	Oct. 26	Feb. 22, 2015	Unlim	ited
Coyotes & Foxes - (Statewide) (Cable restraint devices may be used)	Dec. 26	Feb. 22, 2015	Unlim	ited
Bobcat (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D & 4E	Dec. 20	Jan. 11, 2015	1	1
Fisher (with appropriate permit) WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3C, 3D, 4D & 4E	Dec. 20	Dec. 25	1	1

FURTAKING - HUNTING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit		Season Limit
Coyotes - (Statewide)		game season may be g license or a furtaker wearing orange.	's	Unlimited	
Coyotes - (During any big game season)	May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.				
Opossums, Striped Skunks, Weasels (Statewide)	No closed season.				
Raccoons and Foxes - (Statewide)	Oct. 25	Feb. 21, 2015		Unlimited	
Bobcat (with appropriate permit) WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D & 4E	Jan. 20, 2015	Feb. 10, 2015	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.

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

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.47.

Commentary:

In 2004 the Board of Commissioners adopted regulations creating a 150 yard safety zone for elk along the Rt. 555 corridor from Weedville to Hicks Run to address problems with road hunting and the killing of highly visible elk in yards and public places. The staff and local officers no longer believe this specially designated safety zone is needed and that established laws and regulation can police the hunters and that some of the animals that need removed may be harvested within this safety zone legally and ethically. The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.47 (relating to elk) to eliminate the 555 corridor safety zone.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter C. BIG GAME

§ 141.47. Elk.

* * * * *

(b) *Prohibitions.* While hunting elk during the elk season, it is unlawful to:

* * * * *

[(5) Hunt within 150 yards from the center line of Route 555, from the intersection of Routes 255 and 555, to the intersection of Huston Hill Road and Route 555.]

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendments to § 135.41

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

Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its September 24, 2013, to amend § 135.41 (relating to state game lands) to limit the availability of the fire exception to licensed hunters, trappers or fishermen and through

hikers within the corridor of the Appalachian Trail.

EXHIBIT "A"

CHAPTER 135. LANDS AND BUILDINGS

Subchapter C. STATE GAME LANDS

§ 135.41. State game lands.

* * * * *

(a) Restrictions limited. The following exceptions to § 135.2 (relating to unlawful actions) pertain to lands and waters designated as State game lands:

* * * * *

(2) Small open fires for cooking or warming purposes may be kindled, used and maintained by persons exercising the privileges of a valid hunting, furtaking or fishing license and through hikers within the corridor of the Appalachian Trail as is defined in § 135.42 (relating to Appalachian Trail). This exception to the prohibition on fires in § 135.2(8) is applicable only where the small fires are located at places where adequate precautions are taken to prevent the spread of fire and the small fires are attended at all times and completely extinguished before leaving the site of the fire. This exception shall not apply when the fire index rating used by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is high, very high or extreme for that area. A person causing a wildfire, in addition to possible criminal penalty, is liable for all damages, cost of extinguishing and fines.

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

PROPOSED RULE MAKING

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.62.

Commentary:

Current regulations prohibit a person from trapping beaver using a body-gripping trap larger than 10 inches by 10 inches. The Commission recently received a request to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height to 12 inches in width to accommodate certain commercially available products. The Commission has reviewed applicable safety and wildlife management concerns and determined that this nominal expansion of authorized body-gripping traps will not have a negative impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth. The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.62 (relating to beaver trapping) to expand the trap authorization to 10 inches in height to 12 inches in width and additionally require a single offset trigger positioned in parallel not more than 1.5 inches from either vertical section of a set trap.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter D. FURBEARERS

§ 141.62. Beaver trapping.

* * * * *

(b) Unlawful acts. It is unlawful to:

* * * * *

(3) Set body gripping traps larger than 10 inches [X 10 inches] in height by 12 inches in width or without a single offset trigger positioned in parallel not more than 1.5 inches from either vertical section of a set trap.

* * * * *

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 131.2, 141.43, 141.44, 141.45 and 141.47.

Commentary:

Current regulations prohibit a person from hunting big game using an arrow or bolt equipped with a broadhead exceeding 3 inches in length. The Commission recently received a request to lengthen the broadhead length limitation to 3.25 inches to authorize certain handmade and commercially sold products. The Commission has reviewed applicable safety and wildlife management concerns and determined that this nominal expansion of authorized broadheads will not have a negative impact on the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth. The Commission is proposing to amend §§ 131.2, 141.43, 141.44, 141.45 and 141.47 to lengthen the broadhead length limitation from 3 to 3.25 inches.

CHAPTER 131. PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

§ 131.2. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions contained in section 102 of the act (relating to definitions), the following words and terms, when used in this part or in the act, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

* * * * *

Broadhead—[Shall have an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with no less than two cutting edges. Cutting edges shall be in the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface. Broadheads may not exceed 3 inches in length measured from the tip of the broadhead to the point that fits against the arrow shaft.] A fixed or mechanical tip affixed to the fore end of an arrow or bolt having sharpened cutting edges consisting of metal or naturally occurring stone.

* * * * *

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter C. BIG GAME

§ 141.43. Deer.

- (a) Archery deer season.
- (1) *Permitted devices*. It is lawful to hunt deer during the archery deer season with any of the following devices:
- (i) A bow and arrow. A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or

width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.

(ii) A crossbow and bolt. A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.

* * * * *

- § 141.44. Bear.
 - (a) Archery bear season.
- (1) *Permitted devices*. It is lawful to hunt bear during the archery bear season with any of the following devices:
- (i) A bow and arrow. A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.
- (ii) A crossbow and bolt. A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.

* * * * *

- § 141.45. Turkey.
 - (a) Fall turkey season.
- (1) *Permitted devices.* It is lawful to hunt turkey during the fall turkey season with any of the following devices:

* * * * *

- (iii) A bow and arrow. A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 35 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.
- (iv) A crossbow and bolt. A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 7/8 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.

* * * * *

§ 141.47. Elk.

(a) *Permitted devices*. It is lawful to hunt elk during the elk season with any of the following devices:

* * * * *

- (4) A bow and arrow. A bow must have a peak draw weight of at least 45 pounds. An arrow must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 1 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.
- (5) A crossbow and bolt. A crossbow must have a peak draw weight of at least 125 pounds. A bolt must be equipped with a broadhead that has an outside diameter or width of at least 1 inch with at least two cutting edges located on the same plane throughout the length of the cutting surface, and may not exceed [3] 3.25 inches in length.

* * * * *

D. Amend § 141.1 and create §§ 147.681 through 147.687.

Commentary:

On March 31, 2010, the Commission's 3-year evaluation of the effectiveness of a broad scale and widely accessible authorization permitting the baiting of white-tailed deer across the southeast special regulations areas expired. The Commission's final review of the baiting authorization generally concluded that broad scale and widely accessible baiting did not establish viable increases in harvest rates to justify an extension of the experimental program. On February 1, 2011, the Commission amended §§ 147.552 and 147.556 (relating to application; lawful devices and methods) to create a focused, limited authorization permitting the baiting of white-tailed deer in wildlife management units (WMU) 5C and 5D on approved properties enrolled in the "Red Tag" program. See 41 Pa.B. 1767 (April 2, 2011). The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.1 and create §§ 147.681 through 147.687 to create and implement a deer attractant permit to authorize limited baiting activities on private property in the southeast special regulations area.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.1. Special regulations areas.

* * * * *

(c) Prohibitions.

* * * * *

- (3) It is unlawful to, except for normal or accepted farming, habitat management practices, oil and gas drilling, mining, forest management activities or other legitimate commercial or industrial practices, intentionally lay or place food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals anywhere in the southeast special regulations area for the purpose of feeding white-tailed deer, or to intentionally lay or place food, fruit, hay, grain, chemical, salt or other minerals that may cause white-tailed deer to congregate or habituate an area. If otherwise lawful feeding is attracting white-tailed deer, the Commission may provide written notice prohibiting such activity.
 - (d) Permitted acts. It is lawful to:

* * * * *

(7) Hunt or take deer in the southeast special regulations area during regular open hunting seasons for white-tailed deer through the use of or by taking advantage of bait on private property only pursuant to a deer attractant permit issued under Chapter 147, Subchapter R (relating to special permits, deer control).

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL

DEER ATTRACTANT PERMIT

§ 147.681. Purpose.

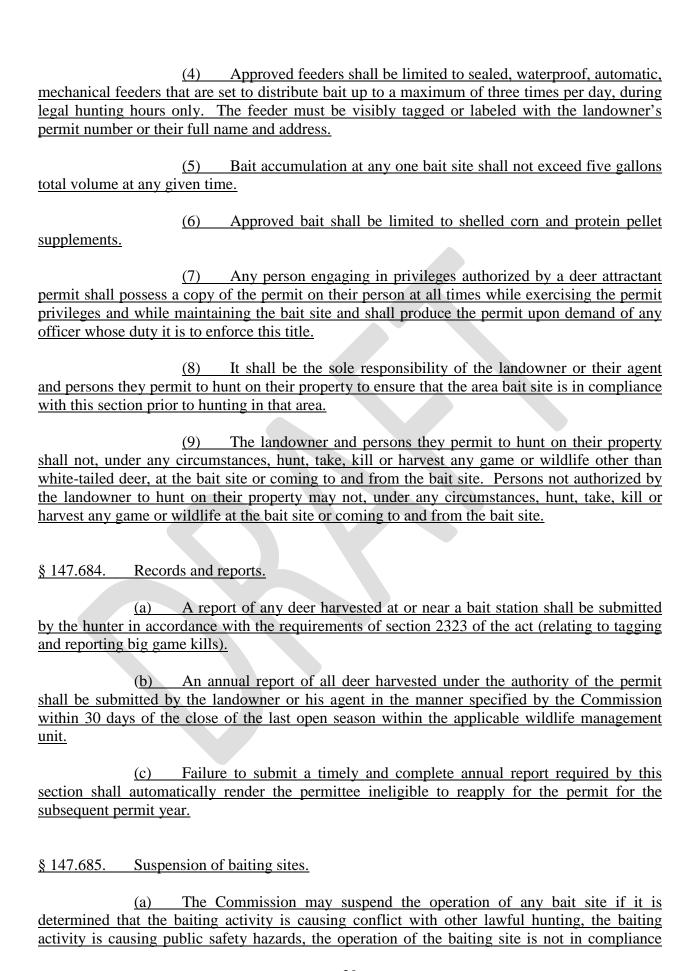
The purpose of this subchapter is to authorize eligible persons to hunt through the use of or otherwise take advantage of approved bait to enhance the harvest rate of white-tailed deer on private property within the southeast special regulations area where traditional hunting and deer control methods have proven ineffective in controlling local deer populations.

§ 147.682. Permit eligibility and use.

- (a) Application. Deer attractant permits may be issued to landowners or their agents who have suffered material damage to their real property in the southeast special regulations area by white-tailed deer. Permits will be made available through a system established by the Director.
- (b) Hunting. Deer attractant permits may be utilized by landowners and/or persons they permit to hunt on their property who:
- (1) Possess a valid hunting license or qualify for applicable license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to license and fee exemptions) for the geographical area including the proposed bait site.
- (2) Have no prior record of violations of the act or this title or related license revocations within the 5 years preceding the date of application.

§ 147.683. Operation.

- (a) A deer attractant permit issued under this subchapter authorizes landowners and/or persons they permit to hunt on their property to hunt through the use of or otherwise take advantage of approved bait for the purpose of enhancing the harvest rate of white-tailed deer. This authorization is subject to the following conditions:
- (1) This authorization only applies during regular open hunting seasons for white-tailed deer in the affected portion of each wildlife management unit located within the southeast special regulations area.
- (2) A proposed bait site shall be located no less than 250 yards from any previously established bait site authorized under this subchapter.
- (3) Approved bait may be distributed at each bait site by approved feeders from two (2) weeks prior to the opening of the first white-tailed deer season through the close of the last white-tailed deer season within the applicable wildlife management unit.



with the requirements of this paragraph or the operation if the baiting site is detrimental to the health and welfare of any wildlife, including white-tailed deer.

(b) The Commission may suspend the operation of all bait sites authorized under this subchapter upon the detection of Chronic Wasting Disease within the southeast special regulations area. This suspension may remain indefinitely until the Commission determines that resumption of baiting activities will not create an unreasonable future risk of spreading of the disease on the landscape.

§ 147.686. Violations.

Violations of this subchapter will be prosecuted under section 2308 of the act (relating to unlawful devices and methods). Furthermore, the Director may deny, revoke or suspend any permit for any violation requirements, standards or limitations of this subchapter upon written notice to the permittee.

§ 147.687. Sunset Clause.

The provisions of this subchapter shall become effective July 1, 2014 and shall expire and be rendered void on June 30, 2017, unless the Commission further authorizes their legal effectiveness prior to this termination date.

E. Amend Chapter 147, Subchapter X.

Commentary:

Since the successful implementation of the Mentored Youth Hunting Program in the fall of 2006, the Commission has been striving to find a way to apply the successes of this mentor-based program to Pennsylvania's non-hunting adults. The Commission determined that such a program could entice increased adult participation in this Commonwealth's great hunting heritage by streamlining their introduction to the sport of hunting. On May 15, 2013, Governor Corbett signed into law Senate Bill 623 to authorize the Commission to implement a Mentored Hunting Program in Pennsylvania. The Commission is proposing to amend Chapter 147, Subchapter X to create and implement a Mentored Adult Hunting Program in Pennsylvania. This program will maintain the mentor-based structure of the Mentored Youth Hunting Program, but will have different species allowances, costs and safety features. Adult participants will now be able to apply for and receive a Mentored Adult Hunting Permit through the PALS system at any of the Commission's issuing agent locations across the Commonwealth prior to participating in the program. Permit application will require participants to supply the required identification information and pay a fee of \$19 for residents and \$100 for non-residents, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter X. MENTORED [YOUTH] HUNTING PROGRAM PERMIT

§ 147.801. Purpose and scope.

- (a) The purpose of this subchapter is to define and implement the Mentored [Youth] Hunting Program within this Commonwealth and provide for the issuance of hunting permits to eligible [youths] individuals.
- (b) The Mentored [Youth] Hunting Program is intended to provide mentors who are dedicated to promoting and sharing this Commonwealth's hunting heritage with [interested youths] others, the opportunity to provide these unlicensed [youths] individuals with one-on-one, hands-on experience and in-field training on the mechanical, ethical, safety, responsibility and enjoyment aspects of the hunting experience.

§ 147.802. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

Lawful hunting device—Any firearm or implement that is lawful to be possessed during the current season and used to harvest the particular species hunted.

Mentor—A licensed person, 21 years of age or older who is serving as a guide to a mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> while engaged in hunting or related activities.

<u>Mentored adult—An unlicensed person, 18 years of age or older, who is accompanied by a mentor while engaged in hunting or related activities.</u>

Mentored youth—An unlicensed person, under 12 years of age who is accompanied by a mentor while engaged in hunting or related activities.

Stationary—The state or condition where a person is still, fixed in place or static, indicated by a cessation of all forward, backward or lateral movement, whether in the standing, kneeling, sitting or prone position.

§ 147.803. Application.

(a) <u>Form and content.</u> Applications for mentored [youth] hunting permits issued under this subchapter shall be made through the Commission or any of its authorized license-issuing agents on the appropriate form designated by the Commission for this purpose. Each application must include the name, address, telephone number, date of birth and Social Security number of the applicant and any other information required by the Commission.

(b) Eligibility.

- (1) Mentored youth hunting permits are available to youth applicants under 12 years of age. Mentored youth hunting permits are available to eligible youth applicants until they reach 12 years of age, after which a junior hunting license is required.
- (2) Mentored adult hunting permits are available to adult applicants 18 years of age or older, who have never held a prior hunting license within the Commonwealth or another state or nation. Mentored adult hunting permits are available to eligible adult applicants for a total of three consecutive, unbroken license years, after which an applicable adult hunting license is required.
- (c) Minors. Applications may be submitted on behalf of an eligible mentored youth upon presentation of a written request executed by a parent or legally constituted guardian.

[(c)] (d) Fee.

(1) The fee for a mentored youth hunting permit will be \$1, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

(2) The fee for a mentored adult hunting permit will be:

- (i) Residents. \$19, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.
- (ii) Non-residents. \$100, plus any applicable transactional and issuing agent fees.

§ 147.804. General.

- (a) <u>License required.</u> A mentor shall possess a valid Pennsylvania hunting license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under section 2706 of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) prior to engaging in any mentored [youth] hunting activities.
- (b) <u>Permit required.</u> A mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> shall possess a valid <u>applicable</u> mentored [youth] hunting permit prior to engaging in any mentored [youth] hunting activities.

(c) Species limitation.

- (1) A mentored youth's hunting eligibility is restricted to the following species: squirrel, woodchuck, coyote, deer and wild turkey.
- (2) A mentored adult's hunting eligibility is restricted to the following species: squirrel, ruffed grouse, rabbit, pheasant, bobwhite quail, hares, porcupine, woodchuck, crow, coyote, antlerless deer and wild turkey.
- (d) <u>Seasons and bag limits.</u> A mentored youth's <u>and mentored adult's</u> hunting eligibility is further constrained by applicable hunting seasons, daily limits, field possession limits and season limits provided in § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year).
- (e) Applicability of junior seasons and antler restrictions. A mentored youth is eligible to hunt during any special youth hunting seasons that apply to any species specified in subsection (c) and are subject to the same antler restrictions that apply to junior license holders in § 131.2 (relating to definitions).
- (f) <u>Tagging requirements. Mentored youth and mentored adults</u> [A mentored youth] shall tag and report all big game harvested in the manner provided in section 2323 of the act (relating to tagging and reporting big game kills).
- (relating to unlawful acts concerning licenses), mentors are authorized to transfer an antlerless licenses issued to them to an eligible mentored youth or mentored adult. The antlerless license shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting antlerless deer. The transfer of the antlerless license may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the antlerless deer, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth or mentored adult may receive by transfer no more than one antlerless deer license each license year. [A mentored youth is] Mentored youth and mentored adults are ineligible to make direct application for an antlerless license.
- (h) Notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 2711(a)(3) and (5) of the act, mentors are authorized to transfer fall turkey tags issued to them to <u>an</u> eligible mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u>. The fall turkey tag shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting fall turkey. The transfer of the fall turkey tag may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the fall turkey, but before tagging the carcass.

A mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> may not receive by transfer more than one fall turkey tag each license year.

(i) Notwithstanding the prohibitions in § 147.676(2) and (3) (relating to unlawful acts), mentors are authorized to transfer Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) harvest permits issued to them to an eligible mentored youth or mentored adult. The DMAP harvest permit must be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting anterless deer. The transfer of the DMAP harvest permit may not occur until after the mentored youth or mentored adult has harvested the anterless 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] Mentored youth and mentored adults are ineligible to make direct application for a DMAP harvest permit.

§ 147.805. Safety.

While engaged in mentored [youth] hunting activities:

- (1) A mentored youth shall be stationary, within arms reach and subject to the immediate control of the mentor at all times while in possession of any lawful hunting device. This limitation shall not be construed to apply to mentored adults. Mentored adults must be accompanied by the mentor within eyesight and in such close proximity that verbal instruction and guidance can easily be understood without the aid of electronic communication devices or sound amplification devices.
- (2) A mentor may not accompany more than one <u>mentored</u> youth[, <u>including</u> junior hunters,] or mentored adult at any given time. A mentor may not accompany a junior hunter in addition to accompanying a mentored youth or mentored adult.
- (3) A mentor and mentored youth may not collectively possess more than one lawful hunting device at any given time. <u>This limitation shall not be construed to apply to mentors and mentored adults participating in the mentored adult hunting program.</u>
- (4) A mentor and mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> shall [both] <u>each</u> comply with section 2524 of the act (relating to protective material required) and with any regulations promulgated by the Commission relating to protective material.

§ 147.806. Liability.

A mentor is responsible and accountable for all actions of the mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> occurring while engaged in mentored [youth] hunting activities. A mentor who causes or allows a mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> to engage in an unlawful act shall be punishable as the principal offender as provided in section 924 of the act (relating to liability for actions of others).

§ 147.807. Violations.

It is unlawful for a mentor or mentored youth <u>or mentored adult</u> to fail to comply with any of the requirements, standards or limitations of this subchapter. A person violating this subchapter shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay the fine prescribed in the act. The Director may additionally deny, revoke or suspend any permit for any violation of this subchapter upon written notice to the permittee.



F. 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 2014-2015 hunting license year.

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.4. Hunting hours.

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

* * * * *

HUNTING HOURS TABLE FOR JUNE 29, 2014 THROUGH JULY 5, 2015

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
June 29 – July 5	5:08	9:02	Jan. 4 – 10	6:53	5:20
July 6 – 12	5:12	9:00	Jan. 11 – 17	6:51	5:27
July 13 – 19	5:18	8:56	Jan. 18 – 24	6:49	5:35
July 20 – 26	5:24	8:50	Jan. 25 – 31	6:44	5:43
July 27 – Aug. 2	5:30	8:43	Feb. 1 – 7	6:38	5:51
Aug. 3 – 9	5:38	8:34	Feb. 8 – 14	6:31	5:59
Aug. 10 – 16	5:44	8:24	Feb. 15 – 21	6:22	6:07
Aug. 17 – 23	5:51	8:14	Feb. 22 – 28	6:13	6:16
Aug. 24 – 30	5:57	8:04	Mar. $1 - 7$	6:03	6:23
Aug 31 – Sept. 6	6:04	7:52	Mar. 8 – 14 *Begins	6:52	7:31
Sept. 7 – 13	6:11	7:41	Mar. $15 - 21$	6:41	7:38
Sept. 14 – 20	6:17	7:29	Mar. 22 – 28	6:30	7:45
Sept. 21 – 27	6:24	7:18	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:18	7:53
Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	6:31	7:07	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	8:00
Oct. 5 – 11	6:38	6:56	Apr. 12 – 18	5:56	8:07
Oct. 12 – 18	6:45	6:45	Apr. $19 - 25$	5:46	8:14
Oct. 19 – 25	6:53	6:36	Apr. 26 – May 2	5:36	8:21
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1	7:01	6:27	May 3 - 9	5:27	8:28
Nov. 2 – 8 *Ends	6:09	5:20	May 10 – 16	5:20	8:35
Nov. 9 – 15	6:17	5:14	May 17 – 23	5:13	8:42
Nov. 16 – 22	6:25	5:09	May $24 - 30$	5:08	8:48
Nov. 23 – 29	6:32	5:06	May 31 – June 6	5:04	8:53
Nov. 30 – Dec. 6	6:39	5:05	June 7 – 13	5:02	8:58
Dec. $7 - 13$	6:44	5:05	June 14 – 20	5:01	9:01
Dec. 14 – 20	6:49	5:06	June 21 – 27	5:02	9:03
Dec. 21 – 27	6:52	5:09	June 28 – July 4	5:05	9:02
Dec. 28 – Jan. 3	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.		
Aug. 31 – Sept. 6	6:04	7:22	Dec. 28 – Jan. 3	6:53	4:44		
Sept. 7 – 13	6:11	7:11	Jan. 4 – 10	6:53	4:50		
Sept. 14 – 20	6:17	6:59	Jan. 11 – 17	6:51	4:57		
Sept. 21 – 27	6:24	6:48	Jan. 18 – 24	6:49	5:05		
Sept. 28 – Oct. 4	6:31	6:37	Jan. 25 – 31	6:44	5:13		
Oct. $5 - 11$	6:38	6:26	Feb. $1 - 7$	6:38	5:21		
Oct. $12 - 18$	6:45	6:15	Feb. 8 – 14	6:31	5:29		
Oct. $19 - 25$	6:53	6:06	Feb. $15 - 21$	6:22	5:37		
Oct. 26 – Nov. 1	7:01	5:57	Feb. $22 - 28$	6:13	5:46		
Nov. $2 - 8 *Ends$	6:09	4:50	Mar. $1 - 7$	6:03	5:53		
Nov. $9 - 15$	6:17	4:44	Mar. $8 - 14 * Begins$	6:52	7:01		
Nov. $16 - 22$	6:25	4:39	Mar. $15 - 21$	6:41	7:08		
Nov. $23 - 29$	6:32	4:36	Mar. $22 - 28$	6:30	7:15		
Nov. 30 - Dec. 6	6:39	4:35	Mar. 29 – Apr. 4	6:18	7:23		
Dec. $7 - 13$	6:44	4:35	Apr. 5 – 11	6:07	7:30		
Dec. $14 - 20$	6:49	4:36	Apr. $12 - 18$	5:56	7:37		
Dec. 21 – 27	6:52	4:39	*Daylight Saving Tim	e			

BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

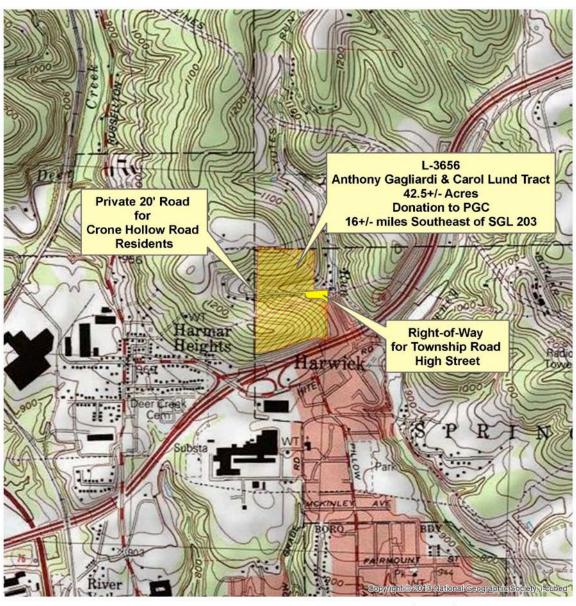
REAL ESTATE

A. Donation

Contract No. 3656, State Game Land No. 203, Allegheny County

Commentary:

Anthony Gagliardi and Carol Lund are offering a donation of 42.5 +/-acres of land in Springdale Township, Allegheny County (Exhibit RED 1). The property is located approximately 16 miles southeast of State Game Land No. 203. Mr. Gagliardi and Ms. Lund will retain the oil and gas rights. Approximately 38 acres of the property is comprised of mixed northern hardwoods with the remainder of the property in reverting old fields and small forest openings. The property is accessed from High Street and is bisected by Crone Hollow Road.





RED 1

State Game Land No. 203

L-3656 Anthony Gagliardi & Carol Lund Tract 42.5+/- Acres Donation to PGC 16+/- miles Southeast of SGL 203

> Springdale Township Allegheny County Southwest Region

B. Acquisition

Contract No. 3657, State Game Land No. 314, Erie County

Commentary:

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Inc. (WPC) is offering for sale 53.7 +/- acres in Springfield Township, Erie County located south of State Game Land No. 314 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$47,525 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. WPC is working in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire the property through funding available through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, Joint Venture Habitat Restoration and Protection Grant program. Commission has agreed that no use of the surface for oil and gas exploration, production, removal or sale shall be allowed on the premises. The tract is forested with mostly northern hardwoods with an oak component. There is at least three species of special concern plants located on the property. A tributary to Turkey Creek with a vernal pool is located on the property. Access into the property is from State Route 5 and Crayton Road (Township Road 322).

Contract No. 3658, State Game Land Nos. 54 and 195, Jefferson County

Commentary:

Green Hills Land Company, LLC is offering for sale two tracts of land, a 26 +/- acre interior into State Game Land No. 54 in Snyder Township, Jefferson County (Exhibit RED 3) and 1,967 +/- acres in Gaskill and Henderson Townships, Jefferson County adjacent to State Game Land No. 195, which also adjoins State Game Land No. 87 to the east (Exhibit RED) 4). Hanak Limited Partnership is offering 163.36 +/- acres in Henderson Township, Jefferson County, located north of State Game Land No. 195 (Exhibit RED 4). The option price for the three properties is \$2,400,000 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. The 26-acre interior is forested with northern hardwoods with ironwood, mountain laurel and grapes in the understory. Three branches of an unnamed tributary to Toby Creek flow through the property. Access is from existing State Game The 1,967 acres is made up of twelve parcels with Land No. 54. approximately 1,012 acres of northern hardwoods and 955 acres of shrub lands and reverting fields associated with previous surface mining activity. Small wetlands and mining related water impoundments are present. Lost Run and Laurel Run flow through the property. Access is from Filtering Plant Road and East Branch Road. The 163.36 acre parcel is also forested with northern hardwoods. The East Branch of the Mahoning Creek, a stocked trout stream, and unnamed tributaries flow through the property. Access is from Branch Road.

Contract No. 3659, State Game Land No. 311, Elk County

Commentary:

Richard and Michele Vollmer are offering for sale 81.63 +/- acres of land in Benezette Township, Elk County adjacent to State Game Land No. 311 (Exhibit RED 5). The option price is \$399,000 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 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has also pledged \$100,000 towards the cost of purchasing the property. Mr. and Mrs. Vollmer will retain the oil and gas rights. The property is divided by a mixture of woodlots consisting of a mix of northern hardwoods and conifers, and shrub lands with grass fields. There is a spring that flows into a half-acre pond located on the property. This property is located in the center of the range of the largest elk sub-population in Pennsylvania making this a prime elk viewing opportunity. Winslow Hill Road bisects the property.

Contract No. 3660, State Game Land No. 25, Elk County

Commentary:

The Conservation Fund (TCF) is offering for sale 12,911 +/- acres of land in Jones Township, Elk County adjacent to State Game Land No. 25 on the east (Exhibit RED 6) and adjoining the Allegheny National Forest on the west. TCF will reserve the timber for 25 years with the right to harvest, cut, remove and otherwise manage and utilize all timber, except for conifers, white oaks, walnut, and apple trees now or hereafter growing, standing or laying on the property. The timber rights shall be exercised in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Commission's timber harvesting provisions and best management practices. The purchase price may be in one lump sum payment of \$12,170,058 or in a series of phased closings with an initial payment of \$2,028,343 followed by no more than five annual installments. The five remaining installment payments shall be as follows; Year one \$2,332,594; Year two \$2,271,744; Year three \$2,210,894; Year four \$2,195,681 and Year five \$2,112,012. installment payments may be paid in cash or in lieu of said payment the Commission, at its sole discretion, may choose to elect to transfer to TCF timber revenue generated from other State Game Land tracts. agreement pertains to the transfer and sale of an undivided one-sixth interest of the property per annual payment until the entire property (100%) has been transferred to the Commission. Should the Commission decide to purchase the entire property prior to year six, the Commission's final payment shall be adjusted accordingly. The property is mainly forested with mixed northern hardwoods, with a small component of mixed conifers in locations, interspersed with forest openings. Many streams, tributaries and upland wetland areas are located on the property and include the West Branch of the Clarion River, Clearwater Run, Silver Creek, Little Mill Run, Wolf Run, Little Wolf Run, and Meffert Creek with several of these streams containing wild trout. The property is bisected by Route 219 and has multiple access points from township roads.

Contract No. 3661, State Game Land No. 147, Blair County

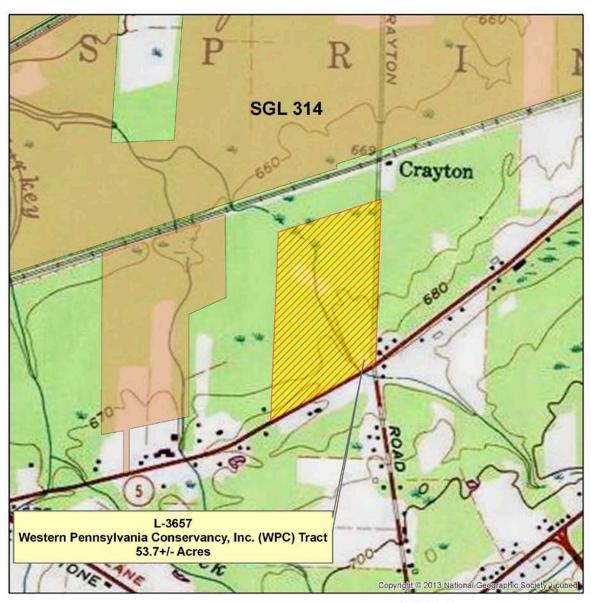
Commentary:

Paul Good is offering for sale 642.69 +/- acres of land located in Frankstown Township, Blair County adjacent to State Game Land No. 147 (Exhibit RED 7). The option price is \$1,150,000 to be funded by habitat mitigation commitments for impacts to state and federally listed species. The presence of Eastern Small-footed Myotis, a Pennsylvania threatened species and Indiana Bat, a Pennsylvania and federally listed endangered species is the impetus for the mitigation funding and will require U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's approval before the property can be purchased. The property is forested with approximately 72% in mixed oak with the remainder in mixed hardwoods. There are two small forest openings, less than one acre in size and several intermittent streams cross the property. There is a ranch house with a detached garage and a small pavilion on the property. A gravel road bisects the property and access is from Locke Mountain Road.

Contract No. 3662, State Game Land No. 239, Bradford County

Commentary:

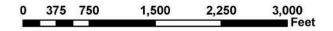
Evergreen Land Development, LLC, is offering for sale 175.5 +/- acres of land in Athens and Smithfield Townships, Bradford County adjacent to State Game Land No. 239 (Exhibit RED 8). The option price is \$451,000 to be paid with funds from third party commitments for compensation of habitat and recreational losses which occurred on State Game Lands from previously approved projects. Approximtely half of the property is comprised of mixed hardwoods with the remaining portion in grassland and reverting fields with sections containing various evergreens of varying heights which were originally planted for sale as Christmas trees. The landowner shall except and reserve the oil and gas. Access to the property is from Blakeslee Road, Chapel Road and Bluebird Road.



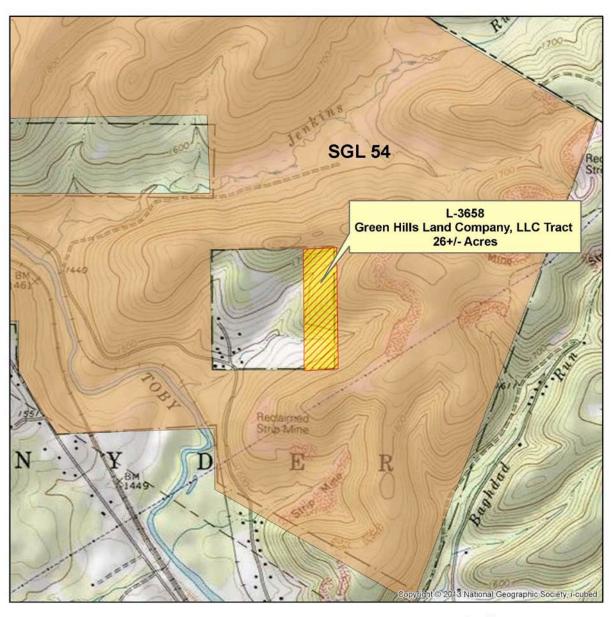


RED 2 State Game Land No. 314

L-3657 Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Inc. (WPC) Tract 53.7+/- Acres



Springfield Township Erie County Northwest Region



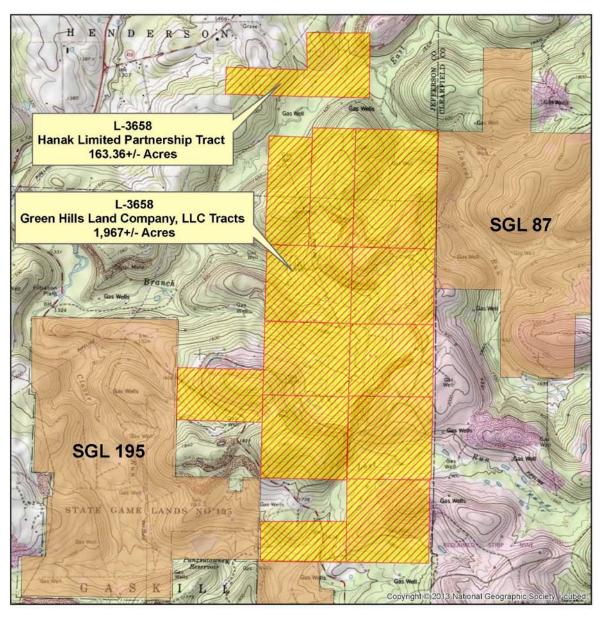


RED 3 State Game Land No. 54

L-3658 Green Hills Land Company, LLC Tract 26+/- Acres

0 500 1,000 2,000 3,000 4,000 Feet

Snyder Township Jefferson County Northwest Region





0 8751,750 3,500 5,250 7,000 Feet

RED 4

State Game Land No. 195

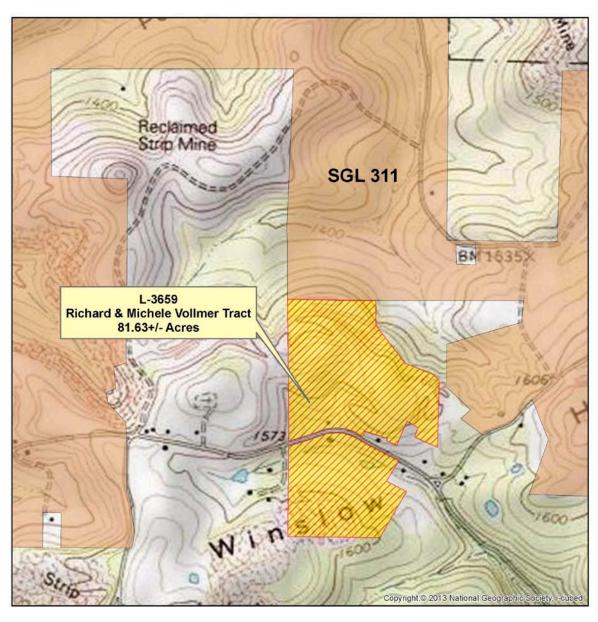
L-3658

Hanak Limited Partnership Tract 163.36+/- Acres

&

Green Hills Land Company, LLC Tracts 1,967+/- Acres

Henderson & Gaskill Townships Jefferson County Northwest Region





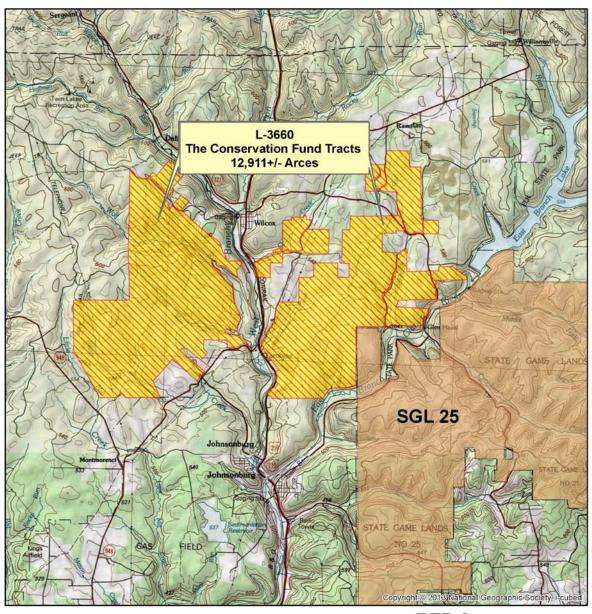
0 375 750 1,500 2,250 3,000 Feet

RED 5

State Game Land No. 311

L-3659 Richard & Michele Vollmer Tract 81.63+/- Acres

> Benezette Township Elk County Northcentral Region





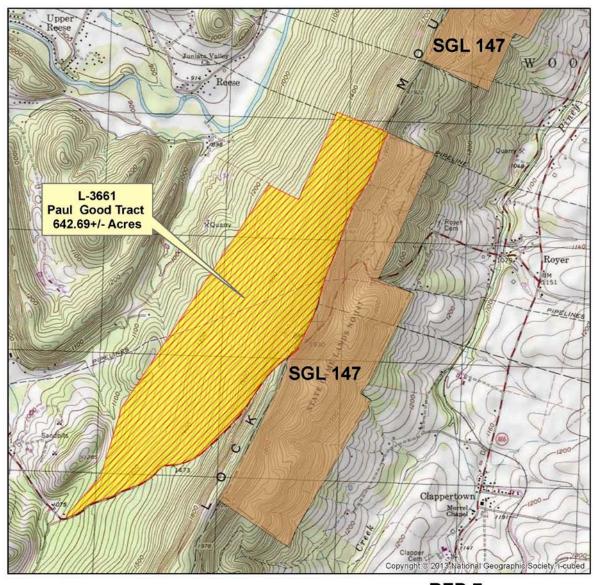
0 3,2506,500 13,000 19,500 26,000 Feet

RED 6

State Game Land No. 25

L-3660 The Conservation Fund Tracts 12,911+/- Arces

> Jones Township Elk County Northcentral Region



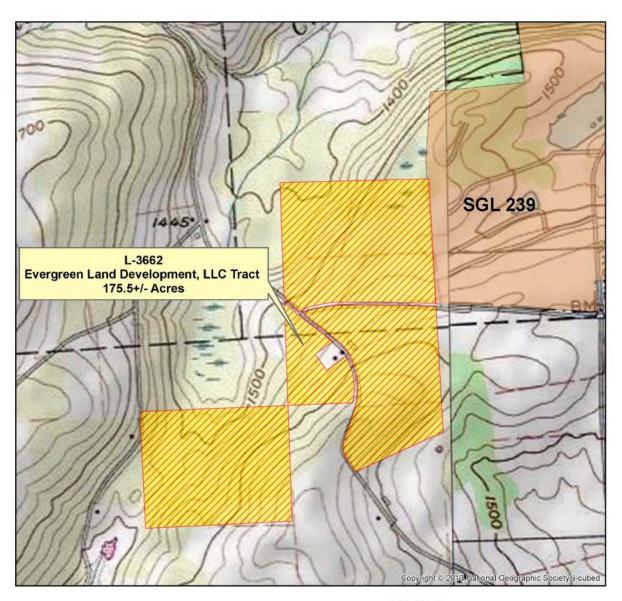
RED 7



L-3661 Paul Good Tract 642.69+/- Acres

0 7501,500 3,000 4,500 6,000 Feet

Frankstown Township Blair County Southcentral Region

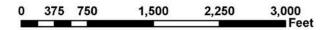




RED 8 State Game Land No. 239

L-3662 Evergreen Land Development, LLC Tract 175.5+/- Acres

> Athens & Smithfield Townships Bradford County Northeast Region



C. Land Exchange

Contract No. 3663, State Game Land No. 95, Butler County

Commentary:

Iron Mountain Information Management, LLC (Iron Mountain) has requested the easement rights to construct two boreholes and a water pipeline in order for Iron Mountain to access and utilize the groundwater and void space located in a previously excavated limestone deep mine beneath State Game Land No. 95 (Exhibit RED 9). The water pipeline shall be 18"-30" in diameter and run from Iron Mountain's property at 1137 Branchton Road, parallel to Branchton Road to deliver water from Iron Mountain's underground facility to water beneath the State Game Land. In exchange, Iron Mountain will convey to the Game Commission 278 +/- acres in Cherry and Washington Townships, Butler County that connects two parcels of State Game Land No. 95 (Exhibit RED 10). Iron Mountain excepts and reserves the right to use the groundwater and void space under the property it is conveying, solely for the purpose of heating and/or cooling space and equipment. Iron Mountain will also except and reserve the oil and gas and subsurface limestone with the rights to deep mine the limestone, remove and produce oil and gas, so long as there is no use of the surface in conjunction with said subsurface rights. The property being conveyed from Iron Mountain is forested with mixed oaks, maple, black cherry, beech, dogwood, hickory, white pine, ash and elm. The shrub understory is made up of witch hazel, rubus, grey stem dogwood, and willow. Approximately six acres of the property are shrub land and reverting old fields. Thirty acres of the property are agricultural lands with 20 tillable acres. A tributary to the South Branch of the Slippery Rock Creek, with associated riparian areas and wetlands, is on the The presence of the Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake, a property. Pennsylvania endangered species, has been noted on the property. Access to the property is from Township Road T-537.

Contract No. 3664, State Game Land Nos. 179 and 245, Greene and Washington Counties

Commentary:

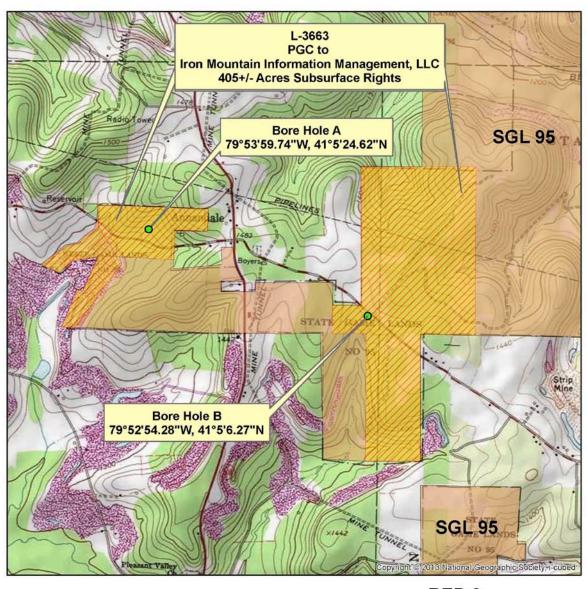
Consolidation Coal Company (Consol) has requested rights-of-way across State Game Land No. 179 for 69 kV electric transmission lines (Exhibit RED 11) and Consol Pennsylvania Coal Company, LLC (Consol) has requested a right-of-way across State Game Land No. 245 for a 16" water pipeline and a temporary construction easement (Exhibit RED 12). In exchange for the value of 12 years of the right-of-way license fees for the electric transmission lines located on State Game Land No. 179 and for 25 years of the license fees for the water pipeline across State Game Land No. 245, Consol has agreed to convey 388 +/- acres of land to the Commission. At this time the Commission has agreed to accept five properties totaling 215.76 +/- acres. Two of the properties are located in Jackson Township, Greene County and adjoins State Game Land No. 179 (Exhibit RED 13). One of the properties is 25.9 +/- acres and the second The two tracts are mostly forested with mixed is 14.4 +/- acres. hardwoods with approximately four acres in reverting old fields. The

properties are bisected by Blockhouse Run and can be accessed from Township Road 403 and Keyhole Road. The other three properties adjoin State Game Land No. 245. Two of these properties are located in Morris Township, Washington County; a 5.4 +/- acre indenture into State Game Land No. 245 which is forested with mixed hardwoods and has a one-acre open field and a 21.11 +/- acres made up of 17 acres of woodland in pole size timber, two acres of tillable agricultural land and two acres of grassland (Exhibit RED 14). Access to these properties is from Craft Creek Road. The remaining property being conveyed is 154.3 +/- acres located in West Finley Township, Washington County (Exhibit RED 15). 120 acres of the property consists of woodland in pole size timber. There are 35 +/- acres of grassland with 25 +/- acres being tillable. Access is from State Route No. 3025. Consol will be excepting and reserving oil, gas, coal and minerals, and retaining full surface support for a period of 50 years. Consol agrees to pay single stumpage and \$400 per acre for any future impacts to surface for wildlife damages.

Contract No. 3665, State Game Land No. 198, Blair County

Commentary:

E & E Logging and Sons Timber (E & E Logging) is offering 246.29 +/-acres in Allegheny Township, Blair County which is an interior into State Game Land No. 198 (Exhibit RED 16) in exchange for timber being offered for sale by the Commission. The proposed timber is associated with the "Blue Knob Removal" timber sale in Blair and Bedford Counties located on State Game Land No. 26. The "Blue Knob Removal" timber sale involves three blocks of timber; two blocks will be credited against the entire value of the land to be exchanged with the remaining block to be purchased by E & E Logging at the established Commission value of \$90,622.85, which will be deposited into the Game Fund. The property being conveyed by E & E Logging is forested with mixed oak, maple and birch and is currently being timbered by E & E Logging creating early successional forested habitat. An unnamed tributary runs the length of the property and empties into Sugar Run. Acquiring this tract will provide better access into existing portions of State Game Land No. 198.



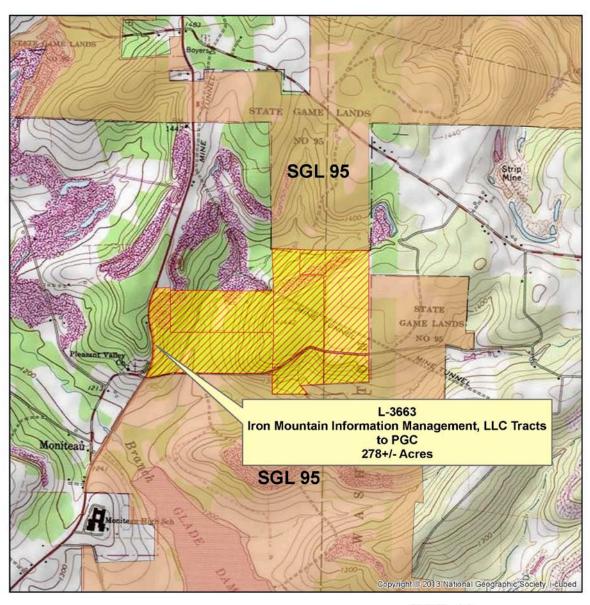


0 6251,250 2,500 3,750 5,000 Feet

RED 9 State Game Land No. 95

L-3663
PGC to
Iron Mountain Information Management, LLC
Bore Holes
and
405+/- Acres Subsurface Rights

Cherry & Washington Townships Butler County Northwest Region



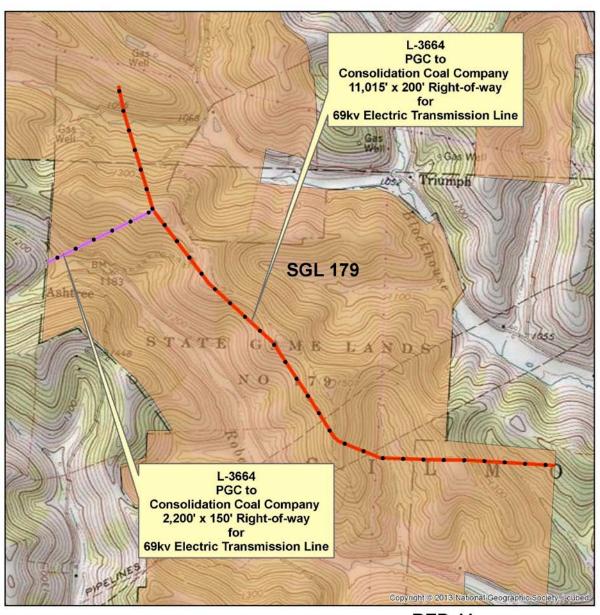


RED 10 State Game Land No. 95

L-3663 Iron Mountain Information Management, LLC Tracts to PGC 278+/- Acres

0 625 1,250 2,500 3,750 5,000 Feet

Cherry & Washington Townships Butler County Northwest Region



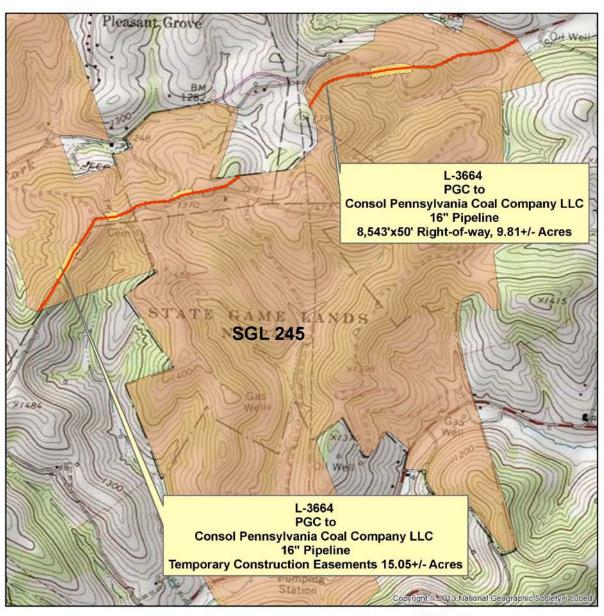


RED 11

State Game Land No. 179

L-3664
PGC to
Consolidation Coal Company
2,200' x 150' ROW & 11,015' x 200' ROW
for
69kv Electric Transmission Lines

Jackson & Gilmore Townships Greene County Southwest Region





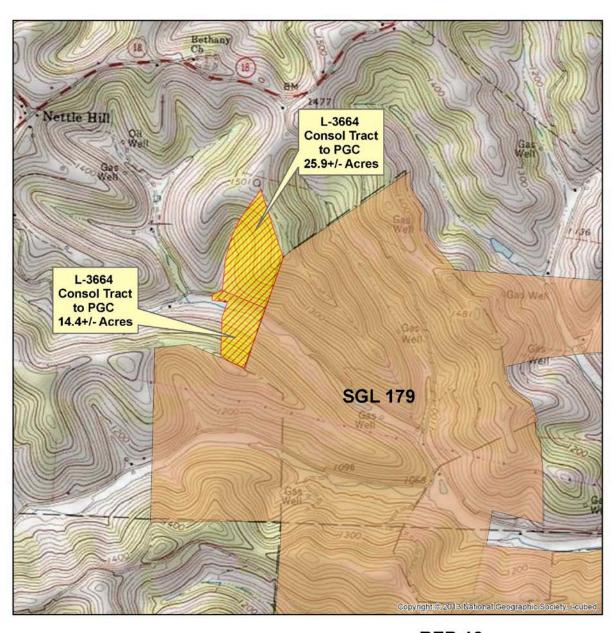
RED 12

State Game Land No. 245

L-3664 PGC to

Consol Pennsylvania Coal Company LLC 16" Pipeline 8,543'x50' ROW, 9.81+/- Acres & Temporary Construction Easements 15.05+/- Acres

East Finley & South Franklin Townships Washington County Southwest Region

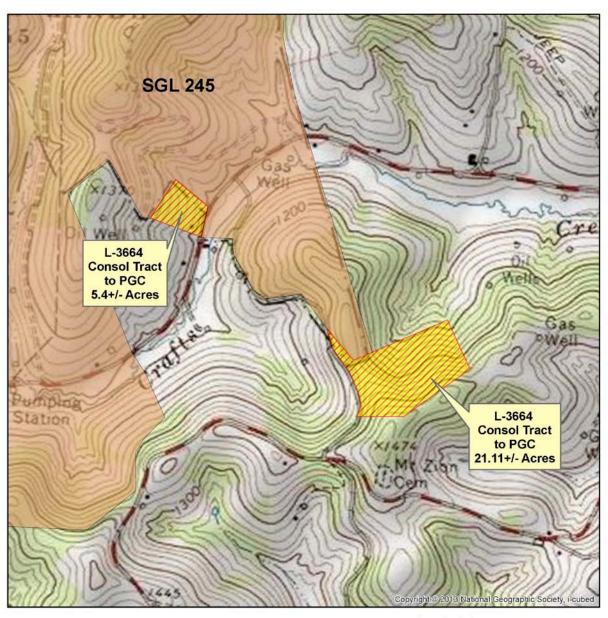




RED 13 State Game Land No. 179

L-3664 Consol Tracts to PGC 14.4+/- Acres/25.9+/- Acres

> Jackson Township Greene County Southwest Region



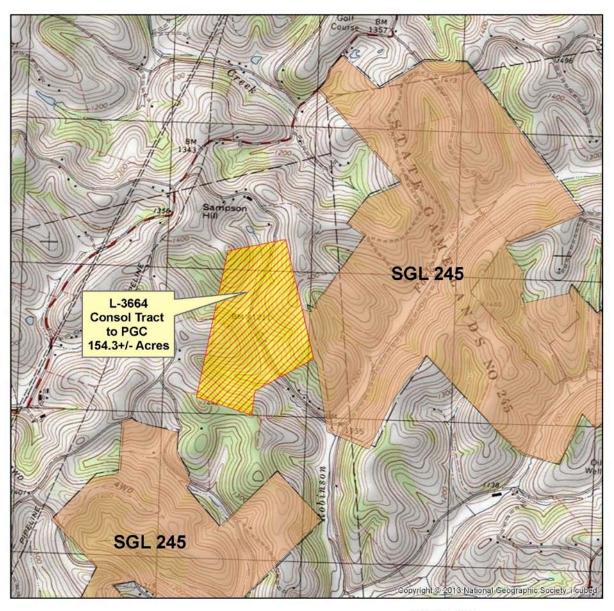


RED 14 State Game Land No. 245

L-3664 Consol Tracts to PGC 5.4+/- Acres/21.11+/- Acres



Morris Township Washington County Southwest Region



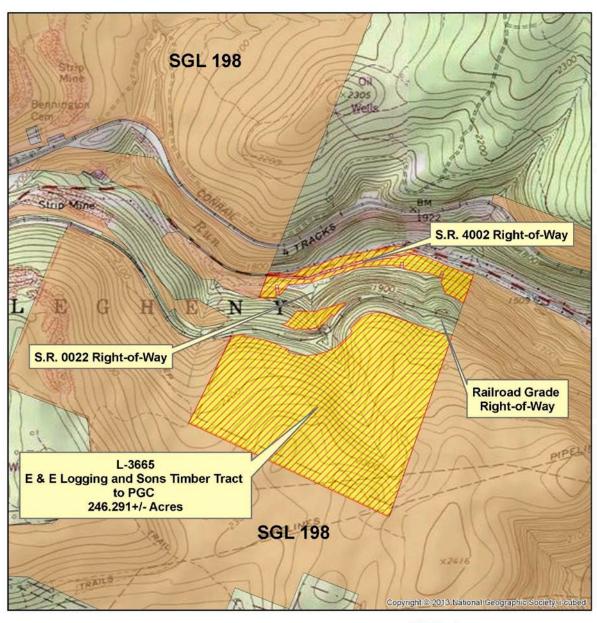


RED 15 State Game Land No. 245

L-3664 Consol Tract to PGC 154.3+/- Acres

0	625 1,250	2,500	3,750	5,000
	3.0			Feet

West Finley Township Washington County Southwest Region





RED 16

State Game Land No. 198

L-3665
E & E Logging and Sons Timber Tract to PGC
246.291+/- Acres

Allegheny Township Blair County Southcentral Region

D. Informational

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.

Contract No. 3666, State Game Land No. 147, Blair County

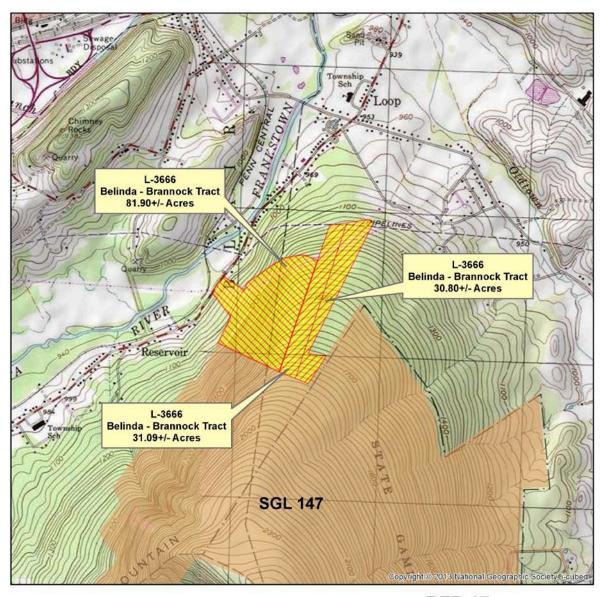
Commentary:

On October 12, 2013, the Game Commission was the successful bidder on three of four tracts that were offered at public auction by landowners The three tracts are located in Frankstown Belinda and Brannock. Township, Blair County and are adjacent to State Game Land No. 147 (Exhibit RED 17). The first tract is 31.09 +/- acres and the second tract is 30.80 +/- acres. Each of these two tracts was acquired with the successful bid of \$67,000 per tract. The third tract is 81.90 +/- acres and was acquired with the successful bid of \$160,000. The \$294,000 total was paid with escrowed funds from a prior land exchange on State Game Land No. 176 with the Pennsylvania State University and required approval from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The tracts lie within five miles of the Hartman Mine Hibernacula known to be utilized by Indiana Bats which are listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an endangered species. The two smaller parcels share a 30-foot wide right-of-way across the fourth parcel offered at public auction which the Game Commission did not acquire. The right-of-way starts at State Route 2007, Reservoir Road and provides critical access into this portion of State Game Land No. 147. The larger tract also provides access into existing SGL 147 from State Route 2007, Reservoir Road. The tracts are forested with mixed hardwoods with an understory of witch hazel at higher elevations and green briar and witch hazel at lower elevations.

Contract No. 3667, Southcentral Regional Office Building, Huntingdon County

Commentary:

A public real estate auction was scheduled for June 15, 2013 to sell the 9 +/- acre Brady Henderson Elementary School property in Brady Township, Huntingdon County (Exhibit RED 18). However, the auction was postponed when an issue arose regarding the right-of-way into the property. The solicitor for the Huntingdon Area School District was able to rectify the problem. The Commission then submitted the successful bid of \$200,000 that shall be paid with funds from the Game Fund. The Huntingdon Area School District then filed a Petition Seeking Approval of a Private Sale of Real Estate for the Brady Henderson Elementary School property. On December 11, 2013, the Court of Common Pleas of Huntingdon County granted approval to allow the sale of School District property. The 27,000 square feet school building will be renovated to become the new Southcentral Region Office building. Access is from Technology Drive off Route 655 from U.S. Route 22.



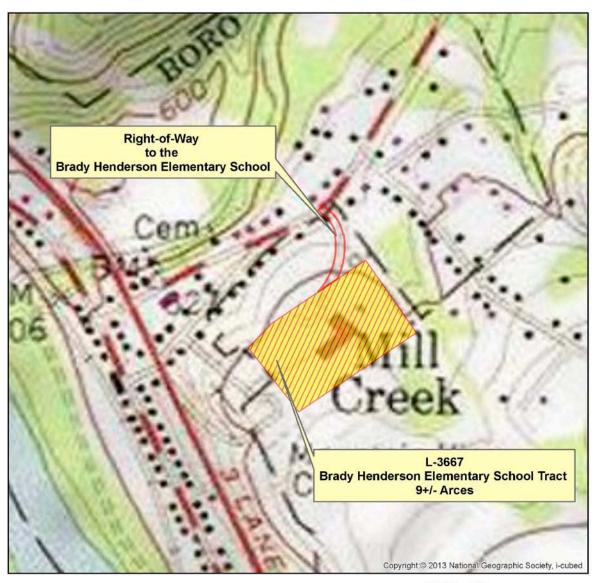


RED 17 State Game Land No. 147

L-3666 Belinda - Brannock Tracts Total of Tracts 143.79+/- Acres



Blair & Frankstown Townships Blair County Southcentral Region





RED 18 Southcentral Region Office

L-3667 Brady Henderson Elementary School Tract 9+/- Arces

> Brady Township Huntingdon County Southcentral Region

0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Feet

OIL/GAS & MINERALS

E. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

Tract 298A-14, State Game Land No. 298, Lycoming County

Commentary:

The Commission offered its oil and gas ownership under a portion of State Game Land No. 298, Eldred and Gamble Townships, Lycoming County, for non-surface use oil and gas development by a competitive royalty bid. Tract 298A-14 (Exhibit OGM 1), containing approximately 1,140.21 acres, was announced for competitive royalty bid in October 2013, with a one-time bonus/rental payment of \$4,000 per acre for a five year paid up primary term agreement with the first well to be drilled and completed within 18 months. The minimum royalty was set at 19% for all oil, gas, and liquid hydrocarbons 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 \$4,560,840 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. Future rentals and royalties owed to the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

Bids were opened on November 13, 2013, and one of the two bids received was withdrawn. Inflection Energy (PA) LLC of Denver, CO, submitted the highest royalty bid of 20% of the value of oil, gas, and liquid hydrocarbons produced and sold from under the premises. The results of the royalty bid are listed below:

BIDDER

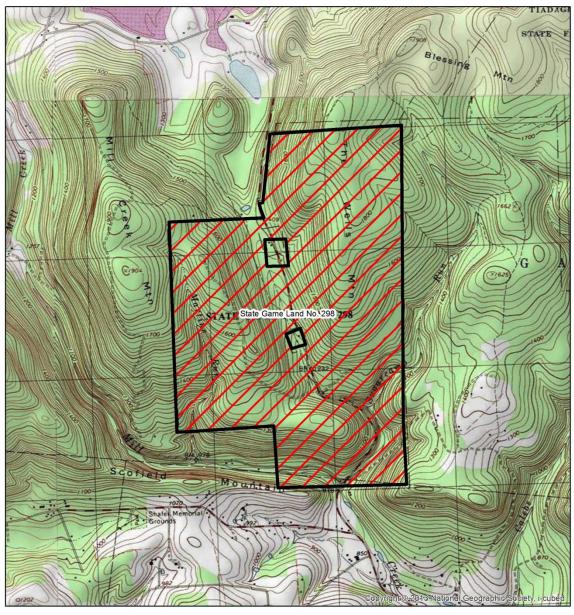
BID ROYALTY

20%

Inflection Energy (PA) LLC FyreRok Reservoir Consulting

Bid Withdrawn

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.



Tract 298A-14 (1,140.21 +/- Acres)

State Game Land No. 298



Exhibit OGM 1
State Game Land No. 298
Restricted Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Inflection Energy (PA) LLC
Tract 298A-13
1,140.21 +/- Acres

Eldred and Gamble Townships, Lycoming County Northcentral Region

Other New Business

Proposed Commission Meeting Dates:

April 7 and 8, 2014 June 9 and 10, 2014 Sept. 22 and 23, 2014 Jan. 25, 26 and 27 2015

Election of Officers

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

Adjournment

