# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION



AGENDA HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA April 10, 2015

> R. Matthew Hough Executive Director

Remarken Hough

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# Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Game Commission

## Agenda

The Commission Meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will be held on Friday, April 10, 2015 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

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

Approval of Minutes of Commission Meeting held January 27, 2015.

#### **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

#### PROPOSED RULE MAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendments 58 Pa. Code § 139.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2015-2016 hunting/trapping license year.

#### (SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS TABLE)

# 2015-2016 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
Squirrel – (Combined species) Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 10		Oct. 16	6	18
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species)	Oct. 17	and	Nov. 28	6	18
	Dec. 14	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26		Feb. 20, 2016		
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 17	and	Nov. 28	2	6
	Dec. 14	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26		Jan. 23, 2016		
Rabbit, Cottontail – Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 10		Oct. 17	4	12
accompanied as required by law					
Rabbit, Cottontail	Oct. 24	and	Nov. 28	4	12
	Dec. 14	and	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26		Feb. 20, 2016		

**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 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A and 5B Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	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 and 5D Eligible Junior Hunters only, with or without the required license, when properly accompanied as required by law	Oct. 10	Oct. 17	2	6
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male only in WMUs 2A, 2C, 4C, 4E, 5A and 5B	Oct. 24	Nov. 28	2	6
	Dec. 14	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	Feb. 20, 2016		
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male or female combined in WMUs 1A, 1B, 2B, 2D,	Oct. 24	Nov. 28	2	6
2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4D, 5C and 5D	Dec. 14	Dec. 24		
	Dec. 26	Feb. 20, 2016		
Bobwhite Quail - The hunting and taking of bobwhite quail is permitted in all WMUs except in WMU 5A where the season is closed.	Oct. 24	Nov. 28	4	12
Hare (Snowshoe Rabbit) or Varying Hares WMUs 3B, 3C and 3D	Dec. 26	Dec. 29	1	3
WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 26 Ja	n. 1, 2016	1	3
Woodchuck (Groundhog)	No closed season ex regular firearms dee on Sundays is prohi	er seasons. Hunting	Unlin	nited
Porcupine	Sept. 1	March 31, 2016	3	10

Daily Season Species	First Day	Last Day	Limit	Limit
Turkey, Fall (Male or Female)			1	1
WMU 2B (Shotgun, Bow and Arrow only)	Oct. 31 and Nov. 26	Nov. 20 Nov. 28		
WMU 1B	Oct. 31 and Nov. 26	Nov. 7 Nov. 28		
WMUs 1A, 2A, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, and 4D	Oct. 31 and Nov. 26	Nov. 14 Nov. 28		
WMUs 2C, 4C, and 4E	Oct. 31 and Nov. 26	Nov. 20 Nov. 28		
WMU 5A	Nov. 5	Nov. 7		
WMUs 5B, 5C and 5D	Closed to fall turkey	hunting		
Turkey, Spring (Statewide) Youth Hunt <sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only Eligible junior hunters only with the required license and when properly accompanied	April 23, 2016		1	1
Turkey, Spring (Statewide) <sup>1</sup> Bearded Bird only			1	2
Domice Date Only	April 30, 2016 and	May 14, 2016	May be hunted ½ sunrise to 12 noon	
	May 16, 2016	May 31, 2016	May be hunted ½ sunrise to ½ hour	

#### **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. §§ 703-712) 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
Crow (Hunting permitted on Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	July 3	April 10, 2016		Unlimited
Starling and English Sparrow	No closed seaso regular firearms	on except during the s deer seasons.		Unlimited

#### **FALCONRY**

				Field Possession
Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Limit After First Day
Squirrel – (Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	6	18
Quail	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	4	12
Ruffed Grouse	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	2	6
Cottontail Rabbit	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	4	12
Snowshoe or Varying Hare	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	1	3
Ring-necked Pheasant - Male and Female - (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2016	2	6

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

#### WHITE-TAILED DEER

Species	First Day		Last Day	Season Limit
Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 19 Dec. 26	and	Nov. 28 Jan. 23, 2016	An antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> (Statewide)	Oct. 3 Dec. 26	and	Nov. 14 Jan. 9, 2016	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Muzzleloading (Antlerless only) (Statewide)	Oct. 17		Oct. 24	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only) (Statewide) Only Junior and Senior License Holders, <sup>3</sup> Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the United States Arms or in the United States Coast Guard, with require antlerless license			Oct. 24	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5A, 5B, 5C and 5D	Nov. 30		Dec. 12	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Regular firearms</b> (Antlered only) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Nov. 30		Dec. 4	One antlered deer.
Deer, Regular firearms (Antlered and Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 5		Dec. 12	One antlered, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> (Statewide)	Dec. 26		Jan. 9, 2016	One antlered, or one antlerless-plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless) <sup>2</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Dec. 26		Jan. 23, 2016	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, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless) Allegheny, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties	Dec. 26	Jan. 23, 2016	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 perm established by the Department of the	ne United States	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.

	BLACK BEAR				
Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit	
Bear, Archery <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 16	Nov. 20	1	1	
Bear, Archery <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 19	Nov. 14	1	1	
Bear, Archery <sup>4</sup> WMU 5B	Oct. 3	Nov. 14	1	1	
Bear, Muzzleloader <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D	Oct. 17	Oct. 24	1	1	
Bear, Special Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D Junior & Senior License holders, disabled and Pennsylvania residents on active duty in arr services	Oct. 22 med	Oct. 24	1	1	
Bear, Regular Firearms <sup>4</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 21	Nov. 25	1	1	
Bear, Extended Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2C, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 2	Dec. 5	1	1	
Bear, Extended Firearms <sup>4</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D	Nov. 30	Dec. 12	1	1	
<b>Bear, Extended Firearms</b> <sup>4</sup> WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D	Nov. 30	Dec. 5	1	1	

**ELK** 

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
Elk, Regular <sup>5</sup> (Antlered and Antlerless)	Nov. 2	Nov. 7	1	One elk with required license
Elk, Extended <sup>5</sup> (Antlered and Antlerless)	Nov. 9	Nov. 14	1	One elk with required license
Elk, Special Conservation Tag <sup>5</sup> (Antlered and Antlerless)	Sept. 1	Nov. 7	1	One elk with required license

#### FURTAKING - TRAPPING

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit		Season Limit
Mink and Muskrat (Statewide)	Nov. 21	Jan. 10, 2016		Unlimited	
Beaver (Statewide)	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2016			
WMUs 1A, 1B, and 3C (Combined)			20		40
WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C and 5D	(Combined)		20		20
WMUs 2G, 2H, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, and 5B (Comb	ined)		5		5
Coyote, Fox, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk, Weasel - (Statewide)	Oct. 25	Feb. 21, 2016		Unlimited	
Coyote & Fox - (Statewide) (Cable restraint devices may be used)	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2016		Unlimited	
<b>Bobcat (with appropriate permit)</b> WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 19	Jan. 10, 2016	1		1
Fisher (with appropriate permit) WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4D and 4E	Dec. 19	Dec. 24	1		1
River Otter (with appropriate permit) <sup>6</sup> WMUs 3C and 3D	Feb. 21, 2016	Feb. 23, 2016	1		1

#### **FURTAKING - HUNTING**

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit		Season Limit
Coyote - (Statewide)	Outside of any big game season may be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker's license and without wearing orange.				
Coyote - (During any big game season)	May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.				
Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel (Statewide)	No closed season.				
Raccoon and Fox - (Statewide)	Oct. 24	Feb. 20, 2016		Unlimited	
Bobcat (with appropriate permit)					
WMUs 2A, 2C, 2E, 2F, 2G, 2H, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4C, 4D and 4E	Jan. 16, 2016	Feb. 9, 2016	1		1

#### No open seasons on other wild birds or wild mammals.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 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 1 spring gobbler. A maximum of 2 gobblers per license year may be taken by any combination of licenses or exceptions for mentored youth.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Only 1 antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 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).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Only 1 bear may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Only 1 elk may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Otter season may be extended up to 5 additional individual days beyond the listed last day of the otter season in the event the harvest quota is not met.

B. Adoption of proposed amendments §§ 141.62 and 147.701.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of the Commonwealth and to provide trapping opportunities for river otter during the upcoming license year, the Commission proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend §§ 141.62 and 147.701. Changes to regulations restricting types and number of devices for beaver and otter trappers in those WMUs with an open otter trapping season are proposed in § 141.62. Amendments to § 147.701 are required to implement an otter trapping permit, tagging and reporting requirements for this new season.

#### CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

#### Subchapter D. FURBEARERS

#### § 141.62. Beaver and otter trapping.

(a) *General*. There shall be one durable identification tag attached to each trap or snare by means of an extension wire of sufficient length so that the name tag is completely above the water or ice level and totally visible for inspection purposes. The name tag shall visibly set forth the owner's first and last name and legal home address, or a number issued by the Commission.

#### (b) Unlawful acts. It is unlawful to:

(1) Place, or make use of, materials or products except raw native wood or stone to direct the travel of beaver or otter. Man-made materials may be used only to support traps or snares.

\* \* \* \* \*

- (4) Set, tend or operate any number of traps or snares for beaver trapping in excess of the limits established by this paragraph.
- (i) Beaver trappers are generally limited to a combined Statewide total of 20 traps or snares, no more than 10 of which may be traps. No more than 2 of the 10 traps may be body gripping traps, except in Wildlife Management Units where beaver bag limits are 40 or more per season, where all 10 traps may be body gripping traps.
- (ii) Beaver trappers are limited to using no more than five traps or snares, no more than two of which may be body-gripping traps, in any Wildlife Management Unit with an open otter trapping season. This limitation is inclusive of any otter traps or snares set under paragraph (7). This limitation is applicable during periods when the open beaver trapping season overlaps by calendar date with the open otter trapping season and shall extend for 5 additional, consecutive days after the close of the otter season.
- (5) Check, set, reset or otherwise maintain a beaver or otter trap or snare, or remove a beaver or otter from a trap or snare, unless the person is identified by the attached name tag as the owner. This paragraph does not prohibit the lending of assistance when the person whose name appears on the trap tag is present.
- (6) Equip snares with a spring-activating mechanism or any device designed to aid the closing of the snare loop.
- (7) Set, tend or operate any number of traps or snares for otter trapping in excess of the limits established by this paragraph. Otter trappers are limited to a combined

Statewide total of five traps or snares, no more than two of which may be body-gripping traps. This limitation is inclusive of any beaver traps or snares set under paragraph (4)(ii).

#### CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

#### Subchapter S. FURBEARER HUNTING-TRAPPING PERMITS

§ 147.701. General.

This section provides for permits to be issued for the hunting and trapping of bobcat and the trapping of otter and fisher during the seasons established and in areas designated under § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year).

- (1) A permit will only be issued to those who possess a valid furtakers license, junior combination license or senior combination license.
- (2) Permits will be made available through the Commission's Pennsylvania Automated Licensing System (PALS). The fee for the permit is \$5.
- (3) Applications shall be submitted in accordance with periods set by the Director.
  - (4) Tagging requirements are as follows:
- (i) A permitted person taking a bobcat, otter or fisher shall immediately, before removing the animal from the location of the taking, fully complete and attach to the animal a carcass tag furnished with the permit. The carcass tag must remain attached to the animal until a Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) tag is attached, if applicable, or the animal is mounted, tanned, made into a commercial fur or prepared for consumption.
- (ii) A permitted person taking a bobcat or fisher shall report the harvest to the Commission within 48 hours of the taking by a means specified by the Director. A permitted person taking an otter shall report the harvest to the Commission within 24 hours of the taking by a means specified by the Director.
- (iii) A CITES tag for a bobcat or otter taken under this permit will be provided by the Commission in the event that the bobcat, otter or any parts thereof are exported internationally or upon request of the permittee. The CITES tag shall immediately be locked through the eyes of the pelt or, in the event of any other part, locked through and attached to the part. The CITES tag must remain attached to the animal until it is mounted, tanned, made into a commercial fur or prepared for consumption.
- (iv) A permitted person taking a bobcat, otter or fisher shall surrender the carcass of this animal within 30 days if requested by the Commission.

C. Adoption of proposed amendments § 139.17.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend § 139.17 (relating to wildlife management units). This proposed revision will expand WMU 5D north and west into WMU 5C to cover more developed urban areas. The proposed change to the WMU boundary line is shown on the attached map.

# CHAPTER 139. SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

§ 139.17. Wildlife management units.

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) The outline map of Pennsylvania sets forth wildlife management units.

(See map of Pennsylvania Wildlife Management Units)

# 10 P.A. Thaffic Ross Wildlife Management I (1) U.S. Traffic Route 34

#### **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

#### ADOPTED RULE MAKING

A. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code §§ 141.1 and 147.681- 147.683.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend §§ 141.1 and 147.681-147.683 (relating to special regulations areas; purpose; permit eligibility and use; and operation) to expand the Commission's limited baiting authorization by allowing use of the Deer Attractant Permit on township and municipal property.

#### CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

#### Subchapter A. GENERAL

#### § 141.1. Special regulations areas.

\* \* \* \* \*

(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, township or municipal property only under a deer attractant permit issued under Chapter 147, Subchapter R (relating to deer control).

#### CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL

#### DEER ATTRACTANT PERMIT

§ 147.681. Purpose.

The purpose of §§ 147.682-147.687 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, township or municipal 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 private, township or municipal landowners 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.

# § 147.683. Operation.

A deer attractant permit issued under this subchapter authorizes landowners or persons they permit to hunt on their property, or both, 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:

\* \* \* \* \*

(7) A person engaging in privileges authorized by a deer attractant permit shall possess a copy of the permit on their person at all times while exercising the permit privileges and while maintaining the bait site and shall produce the permit upon demand of a landowner upon whose land that person may be occupying or to an officer whose duty it is to enforce this title.

\*\* \* \* \* \*

B. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code §§ 141.63 and 141.66.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend §§ 141.63 and 141.66 (relating to definitions; and cable restraints) to redefine cable restraints, identify a list of approved locks and clarify that furtakers who possess a valid bobcat permit could only utilize an incidentally caught bobcat during the established bobcat trapping season.

#### CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

#### Subchapter D. FURBEARERS

§ 141.63. Definitions.

\* \* \* \* \*

Cable restraint – A galvanized stranded steel cable with a minimum diameter of 3/32 inches. The cable must be constructed of either 7 bundles comprised of 7 wires per bundle, 7 bundles comprised of 19 wires per bundle or 1 bundle comprised of 19 wires. The cable may not exceed 7 feet in length from the anchor point to the lock contacting the fully closed loop stop, must be equipped with at least one swivel device (which allows for 360° rotation) between the loop and the anchor and must have stops affixed to the cable to ensure that the circumference of the cable which makes up the loop may not be greater than 38 inches when fully open, or less than 8 inches when fully closed. Cable restraints must be equipped with an approved lock. The lock may not be constructed with moving parts. A cable restraint must include a breakaway device affixed between the lock and cable or at the end of the cable that is rated at 375 pounds or less. The cable must be maintained in good condition so that all components operate properly.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### § 141.66. Cable restraints.

(a) Cable restraint devices may be used from December 26 until the end of the established trapping season to harvest red fox, gray fox and coyote. Nontarget furbearing species incidentally captured in cable restraint devices during an open trapping season for that species may be taken and utilized, provided the trapper possesses all applicable licenses and permits.

\* \* \* \* \*

- (g) Approved locks.
  - 1. Reichart 180° Reverse Bend Washer



4. MicroLock



2. Kaatz "Relax-a-Lock"







3. Penny Lock

6. Berkshire 90° bend washer





(h) Unlawful acts. It is unlawful to:

(1) Use, set, tend or operate a cable restraint having any lock that has not been approved under this section.

\* \* \* \* \*

C. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code §§ 135.2 and 135.41.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend §§ 135.2 and 135.41 (relating to unlawful actions; and State game lands) to require that persons using portable hunting blinds or stands on State game lands or cooperative access properties mark their blinds or stands with a tag bearing their name and address or a number issued by the Commission.

#### CHAPTER 135. LANDS AND BUILDINGS

#### Subchapter A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### § 135.2. Unlawful actions.

In addition to the prohibitions in the act on lands, waters or buildings under Commission ownership, lease, agreement, control or jurisdiction, it is unlawful, except with the permission of the person in charge of the lands, or the written permission of the Director to:

\* \* \* \* \*

(13) Construct, place, maintain, occupy, use, leave or abandon structures or other tangible property, except in the manner otherwise authorized and limited by § 135.41(c)(11) (relating to State game lands).

#### Subchapter C. STATE GAME LANDS

§ 135.41. State game lands.

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) Additional prohibitions. In addition to the prohibitions contained in the act pertaining to State game lands and § 135.2, except with the written permission of the Director, it is unlawful to:

\* \* \* \* \*

- (11) Construct, place, maintain, occupy, use, leave or abandon any structures or other tangible property, except that portable hunting blinds or stands may be used subject to the following restrictions:
  - (i) Use may not cause damage to trees.
- (ii) Except as otherwise provided in subparagraph (iii), overnight placement of portable hunting blinds or stands may not occur sooner than 2 weeks prior to the opening of the first deer season nor later than 2 weeks after the close of the last deer season within each wildlife management unit.
- (iii) Overnight placement of portable hunting blinds is additionally permitted during the spring turkey season within each wildlife management unit.
- (iv) Portable hunting blinds or stands placed under subparagraph (ii) or (iii) must be conspicuously marked with a durable identification tag that legibly sets forth in the owner's first name, last name and legal home address in English or must bear a number issued by the Commission for this purpose.

D. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 141.45.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend § 141.45 (relating to turkey) by deleting the reference to Wildlife Management Units (WMU) 1A, 1B and 2A in the provision prohibiting use of manually operated centerfire, rimfire or muzzleloading firearms using single projectile ammunition in order to maintain continuity between these regulatory provisions.

#### CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

## Subchapter C. BIG GAME

# § 141.45. Turkey.

(a) Fall turkey season.

\* \* \* \* \*

(2) *Prohibitions*. While hunting turkey during the fall turkey season, it is unlawful to:

(i) Use a manually operated centerfire, rimfire or muzzleloading firearm using single projectile ammunition in Wildlife Management Units 2B, 5B, 5C and 5D.

\* \* \* \* \*

E. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 147.804.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission) proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend § 147.804 (relating to general) by eliminating the issuance of antlered deer and spring turkey harvest tags to mentored youth under the age of 7 with their mentored permit, but allowing mentors to transfer antlered deer and spring turkey harvest tags issued to them to these younger youth.

#### CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

## Subchapter X. MENTORED HUNTING PROGRAM PERMIT

§ 147.804. General.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### (c) Species limitation.

- (1) A mentored youth's hunting eligibility is restricted to the following species: squirrel, woodchuck, coyote, deer and wild turkey. Except as provided below, mentored youth hunting permits will be issued with an antlered deer harvest tag and a spring turkey harvest tag. No harvest tags will be issued to mentored youth applicants who are under 7 years of age at the time of application.
- (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. Mentored adult hunting permits will be issued with a spring turkey harvest tag.

\* \* \* \* \*

- (j) Transfer of an antlered deer harvest tag. Notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 2711(a)(3) and (5) of the act, mentors are authorized to transfer antlered deer harvest tags issued to them to a mentored youth who was under the age of 7 at the time of application. The antlered deer harvest tag shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting antlered deer. The transfer of the antlered deer harvest tag may not occur until after the mentored youth has harvested the antlered deer, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth may not receive by transfer more than one antlered deer harvest tag each license year.
- (k) Transfer of a spring turkey harvest tag. Notwithstanding the prohibitions in section 2711(a)(3) and (5) of the act, mentors are authorized to transfer spring turkey harvest tags issued to them to a mentored youth who was under the age of 7 at the time of application. The spring turkey harvest tag shall be valid and in the possession of the mentor at all times while hunting spring turkey. The transfer of the spring turkey harvest tag may not occur until after the mentored youth has harvested the spring turkey, but before tagging the carcass. A mentored youth may not receive by transfer more than one spring turkey harvest tag each license year.

F. Adoption of proposed amendment to 58 Pa. Code § 141.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Game Commission (Commission), proposed at its January 27, 2015, meeting to amend § 141, Appendix G (relating to hunting hours) 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 2015-2016 hunting/trapping 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 28, 2015 THROUGH JULY 2, 2016

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
June 28 – July 4	5:07	9:03	Jan. 3 – 9	6:52	5:23
July 5 – 11	5:11	9:00	Jan. 10 – 16	6:50	5:31
July 12 – 18	5:17	8:57	Jan. 17 – 23	6:47	5:39
July 19 – 25	5:23	8:51	Jan. 24 – Jan. 30	6:41	5:47
July 26 – Aug. 1	5:29	8:44	Jan. 31 – Feb. 6	6:34	5:55
Aug. 2 – 8	5:35	8:36	Feb. 7 – 13	6:26	6:04
Aug. 9 – 15	5:42	8:27	Feb. 14 – 20	6:17	6:12
Aug. 16 – 22	5:49	8:18	Feb. 21 – Feb. 27	6:08	6:20
Aug. 23 – 29	5:55	8:07	Feb. 28 – Mar. 5	5:57	6:27
Aug. 30 – Sept. 5	6:02	7:56	Mar. 6 – 12	5:46	6:35
Sept. 6 – 12	6:09	7:45	Mar. 13 – 19 *Begins	6:35	7:42
Sept. 13 – 19	6:15	7:33	Mar. 20 – 26	6:23	7:49
Sept. 20 – 26	6:22	7:22	Mar. 27 – Apr. 2	6:12	7:56
Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	6:29	7:10	Apr. $3 - 9$	6:01	8:03
Oct. 4 – 10	6:36	6:59	Apr. 10 – 16	5:51	8:11
Oct. 11 – 17	6:43	6:48	Apr. 17 – 23	5:41	8:18
Oct. 18 – 24	6:50	6:39	Apr. $24 - 30$	5:31	8:25
Oct. $25 - 31$	6:58	6:30	May 1 – 7	5:23	8:32
Nov. 1 – 7 *Ends	6:06	5:22	May 8 – 14	5:16	8:38
Nov. 8 – 14	6:14	5:15	May $15 - 21$	5:10	8:45
Nov. 15 – 21	6:22	5:10	May 22 – 28	5:06	8:51
Nov. 22 – 28	6:30	5:07	May 29 – June 4	5:03	8:56
Nov. 29 – Dec. 5	6:37	5:05	June 5 – 11	5:01	9:00
Dec. 6 – 12	6:43	5:06	June 12 – 18	5:02	9:02
Dec. 13 – 19	6:48	5:08	June 19 – 25	5:03	9:03
Dec. 20 – 26	6:51	5:11	June 26 – July 2	5:06	9:03
Dec. 27 – Jan. 2	6:52	5:17	*Daylight Saving Time	<u> </u>	

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING HOURS TABLE							
Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.		
Aug. 30 – Sept. 5	6:02	7:26	Dec. 27 – Jan. 2	6:52	4:47		
Sept. 6 – 12	6:09	7:15	Jan. $3 - 9$	6:52	4:53		
Sept. 13 – 19	6:15	7:03	Jan. 10 – 16	6:50	5:01		
Sept. 20 – 26	6:22	6:52	Jan. 17 – 23	6:47	5:09		
Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	6:29	6:40	Jan. 24 – 30	6:41	5:17		
Oct. 4 – 10	6:36	6:29	Jan. 31 – Feb. 6	6:34	5:25		
Oct. 11 – 17	6:43	6:18	Feb. 7 – 13	6:26	5:34		
Oct. 18 – 24	6:50	6:09	Feb. 14 – 20	6:17	5:42		
Oct. $25 - 31$	6:58	6:00	Feb. $21 - 27$	6:08	5:50		
Nov. $1 - 7 *$ Ends	6:06	4:52	Feb. 28 – Mar. 5	5:57	5:57		
Nov. 8 – 14	6:14	4:45	Mar. 6 – 12	5:46	6:05		
Nov. 15 – 21	6:22	4:40	Mar. 13 – 19 *Begins	6:35	7:12		
Nov. 22 – 28	6:30	4:37	Mar. 20 – 26	6:23	7:19		
Nov. 29 – Dec. 5	6:37	4:35	Mar. 27 – Apr. 2	6:12	7:26		
Dec. 6 – 12	6:43	4:36	Apr. $3 - 9$	6:01	7:33		
Dec. 13 – 19	6:48	4:38	Apr. 10 – 16	5:51	7:41		
Dec. 20 – 26	6:51	4:41	*Daylight Saving Time				

#### BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

#### **REAL ESTATE**

#### A. Acquisition

Contract No. L-3678, State Game Land No. 49, Bedford County

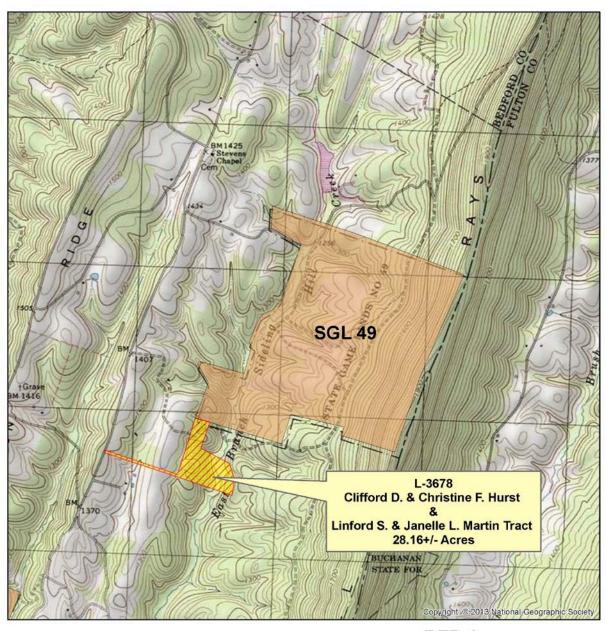
#### Commentary:

Clifford D. and Christine F. Hurst and Linford S. and Janelle L. Martin are offering for sale 28.16 +/- acres in Monroe Township, Bedford County adjacent to State Game Land No. 49 (Exhibit RED 1). The option price is \$70,000 lump sum to be paid with funds from the Game Fund. The tract is forested with mixed oaks. The East Branch of Sideling Creek flows through the property. The creek's floodplain is fairly wide and provides habitat for woodcock and other species whose habitat requirements include riparian areas in young forest habitat. Currently there is no public access from the west and southwest into this detached portion of State Game Land No. 49. Acquiring this property will provide critical access from SR 2011, Robinsonville Road.

Contract No. L-3679, State Game Land No. 224, Luzerne County

#### Commentary:

Silverbrook Anthracite, Inc. is offering for sale 144 +/- acres of land in Newport Township, Luzerne County located near State Game Land No. 224 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$281,000 lump sum to be paid 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 oaks, maples, black birch, hemlock and white pine. There are natural rock outcroppings on the property. Glen Lyon mine opening is located on the property and has become a bat hibernaculum. Silverbrook Anthracite, Inc. also has an active surface mining permit issued for portions of the property. Acquiring the property will permanently protect the hibernaculum which currently is protected by fencing. Access is from SR 3004 known as West Main Street.





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

# RED 1

# State Game Land No. 49

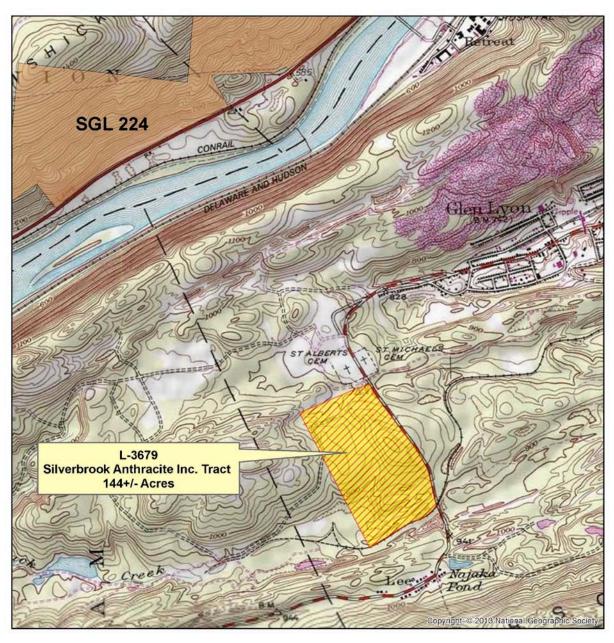
L-3678

Clifford D. & Christine F. Hurst

&

Linford S. & Janelle L. Martin Tract 28.16+/- Acres

Monroe Township Bedford County Southcentral Region





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

# RED 2 State Game Land No. 224

L-3679 Silverbrook Anthracite Inc. Tract 144+/- Acres

> Newport Township Luzerne County Northeast Region

#### B. Land Exchange

Contract No. L-3680, State Game Land Nos. 91 and 264, Luzerne and Dauphin Counties

#### Commentary:

PPL Electric Utilities Corporation (PPL) is offering 261 +/- acres of land in Buck Township, Luzerne County adjacent to State Game Land No. 91 (Exhibit RED 3), and 86.85 +/- acres of land in Wiconisco and Williams Townships, Dauphin County an interior within State Game Land No. 264 (Exhibit RED 4). PPL has requested amendments to two existing right-of-way licenses in order to construct new or rebuild existing electric transmission facilities across State Game Land No. 127 in Tobyhanna and Coolbaugh Townships, Monroe County and State Game Land No. 129 in Kidder Township, Carbon County, and has agreed to convey this 347.85 +/- acres of land to the Commission in lieu of habitat and surface damages and annual license fees in excess of the minimum fees required under Pa. Code §§135.221-135.225.

The amended right-of-way license on State Game Land No. 127 will result in 3,720 linear feet of new 100-foot wide right-of-way (8.54 +/- acres) in addition to the 16,878 linear feet of existing 100-foot wide right-of-way (38.75 +/- acres) that has been licensed since 1976, and will allow PPL to construct or rebuild a total of 20,598 linear feet of 138/69 kV electric transmission line (Exhibit RED 5). The amended license will also authorize PPL to use a total of 11,575 linear feet of roads outside of the new and existing rights-of-way for construction and future maintenance of the transmission line on State Game Land No. 127.

The amended right-of-way license on State Game Land No. 129 will result in the widening of the existing 3,649 linear-foot right-of-way from 70 feet to 100 feet, an increase in right-of-way acreage of 2.52 +/- acres, in order to improve safety and minimize the potential for flashover once PPL rebuilds the 138/69 kV electric transmission line and a 12 kV electric distribution line (Exhibit RED 6).

Of the 261 +/- acres to be conveyed adjacent to State Game Land No. 91, PPL will reserve the right to construct, operate, maintain and remove future electric facilities within a 200-foot wide right-of-way abutting and parallel to the northeastern boundary of the 182-acre tract (PPL Tract 1, Exhibit RED 3), the right to construct, operate, maintain and remove future electric facilities anywhere within the 79-acre tract (PPL Tract 2, Exhibit RED 3), and the right to utilize 2,829 linear feet of existing access road through these tracts. Both tracts consist of a mixed oak/maple forest interspersed with stands of hemlock and white pine, and the understory is comprised of low bush blueberry and mountain laurel. The tracts are located in the Upper Lehigh River watershed and contain portions of the headwaters of White House Run, Kendall Creek, and associated unnamed tributaries, as well as numerous forested and scrub-shrub wetland complexes. Both tracts also provide critical summer roost habitat for

eastern small-footed bats, a Pennsylvania threatened species. Access to the 261 +/- acres is available either from S.R. 115 or Buck River Road.

PPL will not reserve any rights on the 86.85 +/- acres to be conveyed (PPL Tract 3, Exhibit RED 4) within State Game Land No. 264. This tract consists of a primarily dry oak mixed hardwood forest interspersed with herbaceous openings and a Commission administrative road, with the forested understory comprised of a mix of striped maple, dogwood, hophornbeam, low bush blueberry, huckleberry and mountain laurel. PPL Tract 3 is located almost entirely within the Bear Creek valley, with its eastern end extending into the headwaters of West Branch Rausch Creek. Acquisition of this acreage will eliminate an interior on State Game Land No. 264 and secure access through State Game Land No. 264.

Contract L-3681, State Game Land Nos. 80 and 168, Schuylkill and Monroe Counties

#### Commentary:

Nestle Waters North America Inc. (Nestle) is offering 18.67 +/- acres of land in Pine Grove Township, Schuylkill County adjacent to State Game Land No. 80 (Exhibit RED 7) and 89 +/- acres of land in Ross Township, Monroe County adjacent State Game Land No. 168 (Exhibit RED 8). In exchange for the 107.67 acres of land Nestle has requested a Surface Use Cooperative Spring Water Recharge Protection Agreement (Agreement) involving 184 +/- acres of land in Lynn Township, Lehigh County within State Game Land No. 217 (Exhibit RED 9).

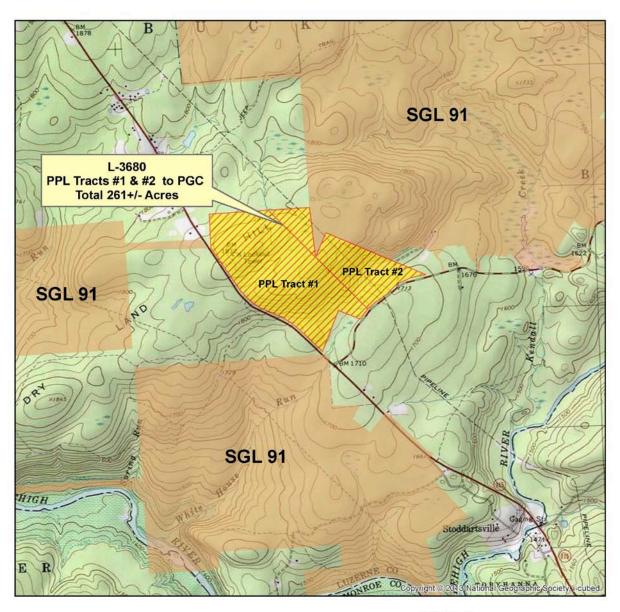
In the Agreement the Commission and anyone under the Commission's control, except with written consent from Nestle, agrees not to engage in certain activities within the recharge area including but not limited to development, earth disturbance, surface mining or rock quarrying, timbering, road construction, placement of hazardous materials, implementation of prescribed fire techniques, and spraying herbicides, insecticides or other chemicals that may adversely impact the surface or groundwater recharge area supplying springs located on private property and utilized by Nestle. The Commission further agrees not to withdraw or allow others under the Commission's control to withdraw, surface or groundwater from the recharge area for transfer or use off of the recharge area. The Commission shall have the right to use water on the recharge area for normal and customary wildlife and related land management activities. There are no other limitation on the normal and customary wildlife and related land management activities of the Commission including selective timber cutting or limited timber cutting to create clearings for wildlife habitat or manage diseased trees, vegetation management, hunting and furtaking.

The two tracts totaling 18.67 +/- acres adjoining State Game Land No. 80 are forested with mixed hardwoods and will provide critical access from Swopes Valley Road into a large section of State Game Land No. 80 with limited access.

The 89 +/- acre property is forested mainly with maple, chestnut oak, birch and black gum and lies on the north slope of Blue Mountain. The property adjoins National Park Service lands to the south and access is through existing State Game Land No. 168.

## Action:



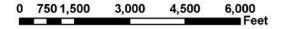




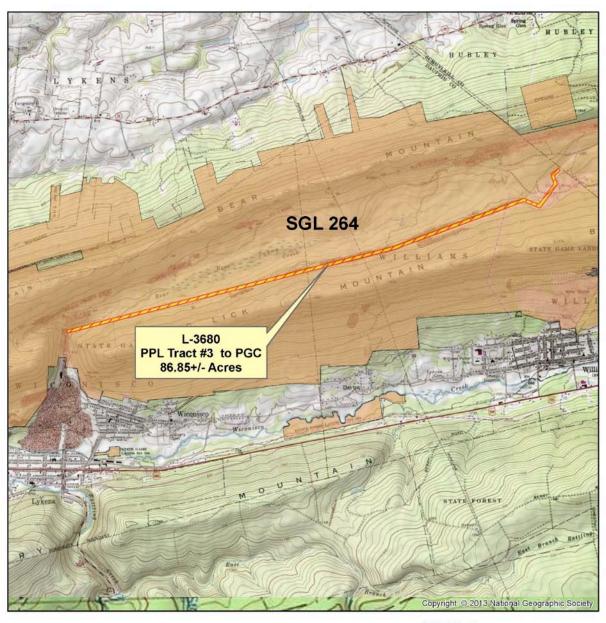
# RED 3

# State Game Land No. 91

L-3680 PPL Tracts #1 & #2 to PGC Total 261+/- Acres



Buck Township Luzerne County Northeast Region



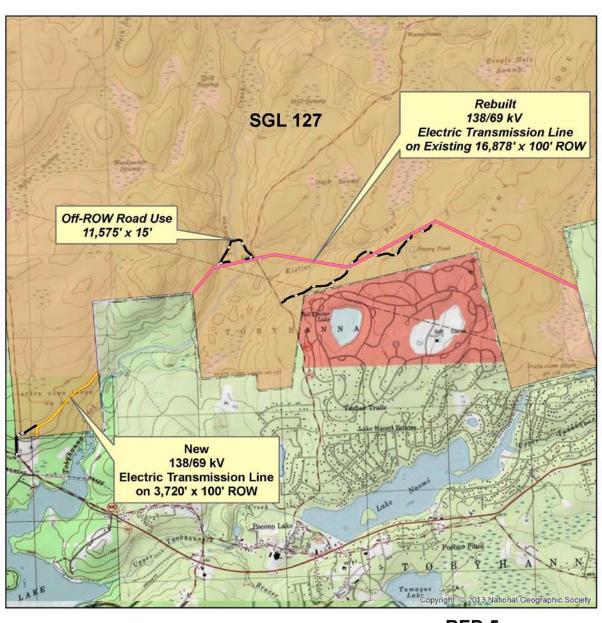


# RED 4 State Game Land No. 264

L-3680 PPL Tract #3 to PGC 86.85+/- Acres



Wiconisco & Williams Townships Dauphin County Southeast Region





0 1,2502,500 5,000 7,500 10,000 Feet

### RED 5

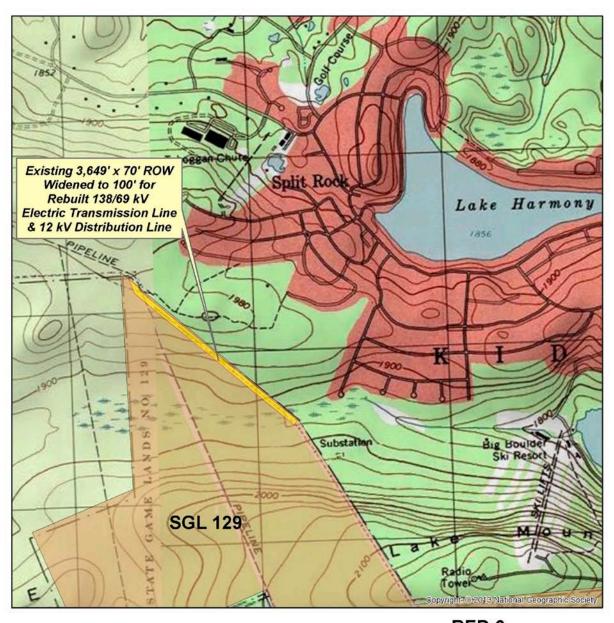
## State Game Land No. 127

L-3680

Amendment of License for Right-of-Way with PPL Electric Utilities Corporation for

> Electric Transmission Line & Access Roads

Tobyhanna & Coolbaugh Townships Monroe County Northeast Region





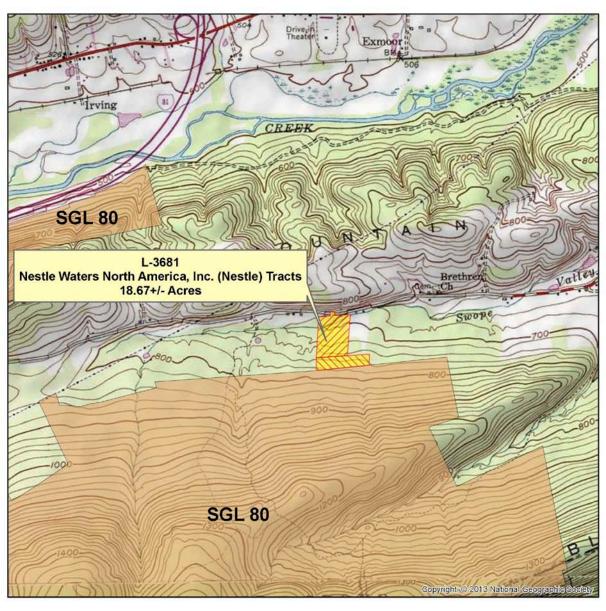
# RED 6

## State Game Land No. 129

L-3680 Amendment of License for Right-of-Way with **PPL Electric Utilities Corporation** for

**Electric Transmission & Distribution Lines** 5,000 625 1,250 2,500 3,750 Feet

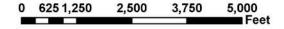
**Kidder Township Carbon County** Northeast Region



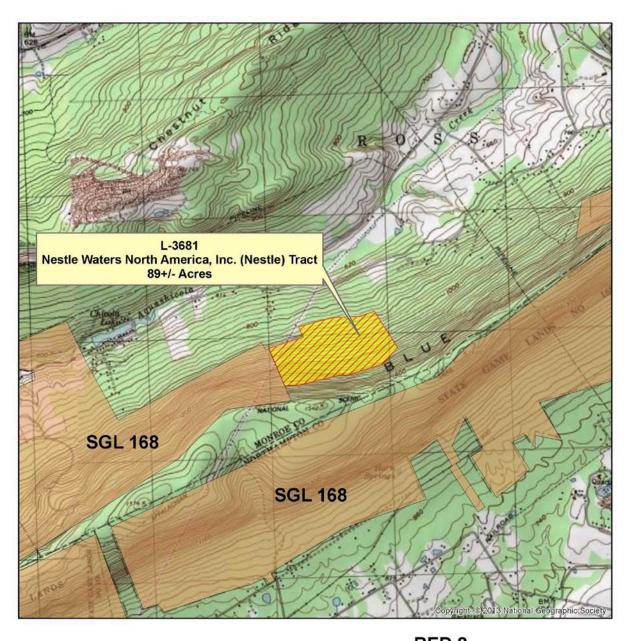


# RED 7 State Game Land No. 80

L-3681 Nestle Waters North America, Inc. (Nestle) Tracts 18.67+/- Acres



Pine Grove Township Schuylkill County Southeast Region



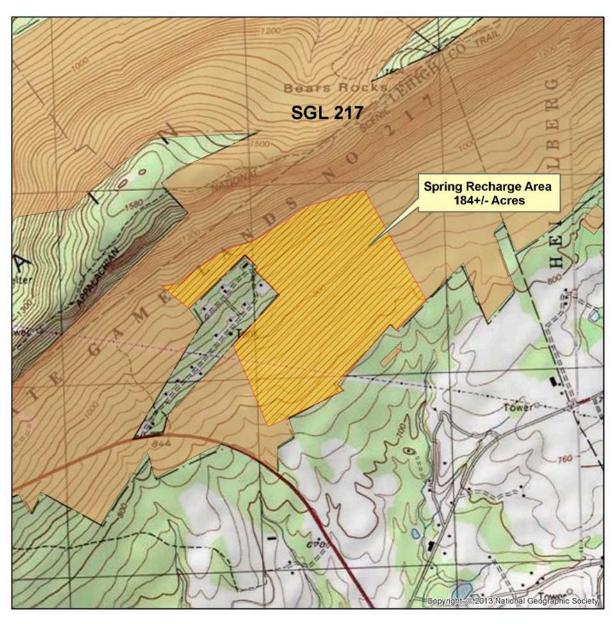


# RED 8 State Game Land No. 168

L-3681 Nestle Waters North America, Inc. (Nestle) Tract 89+/- Acres

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

Ross Township Monroe County Southeast Region





# RED 9 State Game Land No. 217

L-3681
SURFACE USE
for Nestle Waters North America Inc. (Nestle) Tract
Cooperative Spring Water Recharge Protection Agreement Area
184+/- Acres



Lynn Township Lehigh County Southeast Region

#### **OIL/GAS & MINERALS**

C. Restricted Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

Tract 117A-15, State Game Land No. 117, Washington County

### **Commentary**:

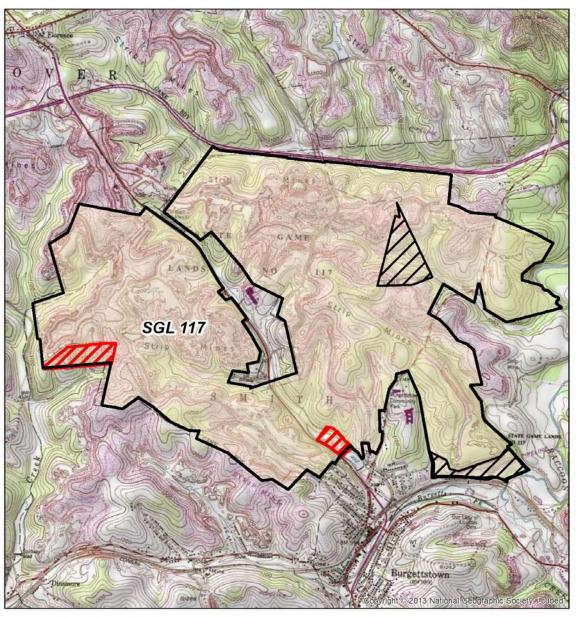
Range Resources Appalachia, LLC (Range) requested the Commission offer its oil and gas ownership under a 41.08 acre portion of State Game Land No. 117 for oil and gas development. The proposed tract is located in Smith Township, Washington County, (Exhibit OGM 1).

Range has leased the privately owned oil and gas rights under the majority of State Game Land No. 117 and surrounding private lands and has initiated unconventional well drilling and development programs in the vicinity of the proposed tract and has the ability to unitize the Commission's oil and gas reserve by horizontal drilling with no surface disturbance to the 41.08 acre tract.

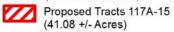
The terms and conditions of the agreement are a five year paid up nonsurface use oil and gas agreement, a \$2,500 per acre bonus payment and 19% royalty for all oil/gas and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract. The bonus payment of \$102,700 may be deposited into the Game Fund or into 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 the Commission shall be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

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 Development Agreement.

## Action:











# **EXHIBIT OGM 1**

State Game Land No. 117

Restricted Surface Use
Oil & Gas Cooperative Agreement
Range Resources Appalachia, LLC
Tract 117A-15
41.08 +/- Acres

Smith Twp., Washington County

#### D. Amendment to Shallow Oil and Gas Assignment

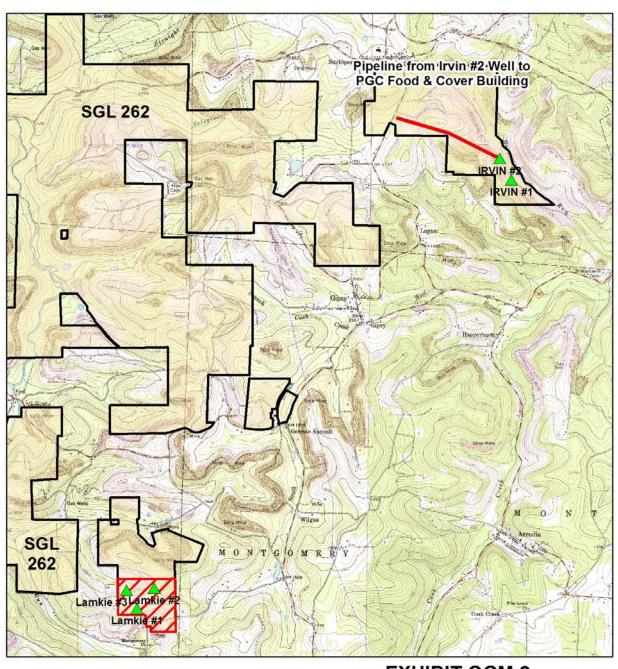
Tract 262-01, Joseph Clark d/b/a Susquehanna Exploration and Production, State Game Land No. 262, Indiana County

#### **Commentary**:

As part of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's agenda for the April 2004 meeting, the Commission approved an assignment of oil and gas rights on a 99.6-acre parcel designated as tract 262-01 in exchange for coal and coal mining rights on 177.76 acres located on State Game Land No. 262, Banks Township, Indiana County, to Joseph Clark d/b/a Susquehanna Exploration and Production, LLC (Susquehanna) of Glen Campbell, PA. Subsequently Susquehanna had drilled two shallow gas wells on the tract and currently holds the 99 acre tract by production.

Susquehanna has requested to drill a third shallow well designated as the Lamkie #3 well on tract 262-01. In exchange for the rights to drill and produce the Lamkie #3 well, Susquehanna will install a 5,000 foot pipeline and provide up to 250 MCF of free gas annually to the Commission's food and cover building on State Game Land No. 262, Banks Township from the proposed Irvin #2 well. The Irving #2 well is a proposed shallow vertical well located on State Game Land No. 262, Banks Township in which the Commission does not own the oil and gas rights. Tract 262-01, the proposed Lamkie #3 well, and the proposed Irvin #2 well and the pipeline route are depicted on Exhibit OGM 2.

#### Action:



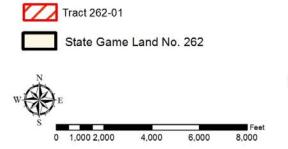


EXHIBIT OGM 2
State Game Land No. 262
Amendment to
Shallow Oil and Gas Assignment
Joseph Clark d/b/a
Susquehanna Exploration & Production
Tract 262-01
99.6 Acres

Grant & Banks Twps., Indiana County

Elk Allocation

Antlerless Deer Allocation

Other New Business

Next Meeting - June 29-30, 2015

