PENNSYLVANIA IMPORTANT MAMMAL AREA #36 Tobyhanna & Gouldsboro State Parks/SGL 127

COUNTY(IES) Monroe, Wayne

APPROX. SIZE 38,760 acres

OWNERSHIP Public (Federal, State), Private

REASON FOR SELECTION

- Supports significant populations of species or subspecies with specific habitat requirements
- Contains a rare, threatened, or unique habitat type important to mammals
- Sustains a confirmed viable local population of a Species of Greatest Conservation Need and the species or subspecies regularly occurs at the site during one or more seasons

DESCRIPTION

Located north and west of the town of Tobyhanna, the area is dominated by wetland habitats (swamps, bogs, streams, and open water) with northern hardwood forest and conifer stands.

MAMMAL NOTES

Northern water shrews have been recorded here, as well as a large suite of native carnivores, including northern river otter, black bear, and bobcat. The area should be surveyed for snowshoe hare. Northern flying squirrels have been recorded a short distance from the southwestern boundary. There is potential for development of "watchable wildlife" interpretive stations for observations of beaver and beaver sign.

CONSERVATION NOTES

Extensive sphagnum bogs in both parks provide habitat for a diversity of characteristic plants, birds, and amphibians. Bender/Black Bear Swamps (1600 acres) in Tobyhanna State Park are a designated "natural area."