

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION**



**AGENDA  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
January 24, 2026**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Stephen P. Smith".

Stephen P. Smith  
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 Saturday, January 24, 2026 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

Stanley I. Knick, Jr., President  
Haley J. Sankey, Vice President  
Allen J. DiMarco, Secretary  
Scott H. Foradora  
Dennis R. Fredericks  
Kristen Koppenhafer  
Michael F. Mitrick  
Todd A. Pride  
Robert C. Schwalm

Approval of minutes of Commission meeting held September 5, 2025.



## BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

### PROPOSED RULE MAKING

#### A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.4.

Commentary:

To effectively manage the wildlife resources and provide hunting and trapping opportunities in this Commonwealth during the upcoming license year, the Commission is proposing to amend § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year) to provide updated seasons and bag limits for the 2026-2027 license year. The 2026-2027 seasons and bag limits were updated 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.

The 2026-27 season proposals include open Sundays within the frameworks of all seasons throughout the license year. Also, most seasons that previously ended on Saturdays will now end on Sundays to provide one additional day of opportunity.

For white-tailed deer, the regular firearms season is proposed to shift one week earlier, such that the season would open the Saturday prior to Thanksgiving. This change would result in adjustments for numerous other hunting seasons, although in most cases the total number of hunting days would not change. Also, for white-tailed deer, minor adjustments to date structures of extended firearms, flintlock, and late archery seasons are proposed to reduce complexity and to ensure season lengths correspond to sporting arm efficiency and management objectives.

For wild turkey, a spring gobbler season bag limit of one is proposed to offset possible additional harvest due to the inclusion of Sundays and ensure that harvest rates remain within sustainable levels.

For black bear, shifting the firearms bear season one week earlier is expected to increase harvest vulnerability of female bears. To ensure overall harvest rates remain within sustainable levels, the length of the proposed archery, muzzleloader, and special firearms seasons in most WMUs would be reduced to 2 days. However, in WMU 3D, a longer archery bear season (overlapping with the entire first segment of the archery deer season) is proposed to increase harvest in response to high levels of bear-human conflict in this area.

For elk, addition of an early October firearms season segment is proposed to limit crowding and maintain hunter satisfaction under current and potential future increased license allocations. The late firearms elk season is proposed to be moved later in January to avoid conflicts with major holidays.

For furbearers, WMU 5A is proposed to be opened to bobcat hunting and trapping, and WMUs 2G, 3A, and 4C are proposed to be opened to river otter trapping. Habitat and population data indicate that these units can support sustainable harvest for these species.

Action:

DRAFT

ANNEX "A"

§ 139.4 Seasons and bag limits for the license year.

**2026-2027 OPEN HUNTING AND FUR TAKING 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
<b><i>Squirrel</i></b> – (Combined species) Eligible Junior Hunters, with or without the required junior license, and Mentored Permit Holders age 16 and under	Sept. 12	Sept. 27	6	18
<b><i>Squirrel</i></b> – (Combined species)	Sept. 12 and Dec. 7 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20 Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	6	18
<b><i>Ruffed Grouse</i></b>	Oct. 17 and Dec. 7	Nov. 20 Dec. 24	2	6
<b><i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i></b> Eligible Junior Hunters, with or without the required junior license, and Mentored Permit Holders age 16 and under	Oct. 3	Oct. 18	4	12
<b><i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i></b>	Oct. 17 and Dec. 7 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20 Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	4	12
<b><i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i></b> Central Susquehanna and Franklin County Wild Pheasant Recovery Areas <b><i>Male only</i></b>	As authorized by the Executive Order			
<b><i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or Female</i></b> Junior License Holders and Mentored Permit Holders <sup>1</sup>	Oct. 10	Oct. 18	2	6
<b><i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or Female</i></b>	Oct. 24 and Dec. 7 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20 Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	2	6
<b><i>Bobwhite Quail</i></b> – There is no open season for the taking of bobwhite quail in the area surrounding the Letterkenny Bobwhite Quail Focus Area, as designated in § 141.30 (relating to bobwhite quail recovery area).				

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Bobwhite Quail</i>	Sept. 1 and Dec. 7 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20 Dec. 24 Mar. 31, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Woodchuck (Groundhog)</i>	July 1 and Dec. 7	Nov. 20 June 30, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Crow</i> (Hunting permitted on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday only)	Aug. 20	Mar. 21, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Starling and English Sparrow</i>	No closed season, except season closed during the regular firearms deer seasons.			Unlimited

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Snowshoe or Varying Hare</i>	Dec. 26	Dec. 31	1	3

#### ***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* and / or on the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service website on or about February 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.
- (c) Hunting on Sunday not authorized.

#### ***FALCONRY***

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027	6	18
<i>Quail</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027	2	6
<i>Cottontail Rabbits</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027	4	12

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Field Possession Limit After Second Day
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant - Male and Female</i> (Combined)	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027	2	6
<i>Mink, Muskrat, Fox, Opossum, Raccoon, Striped Skunk, and Weasel</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027		Unlimited

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Snowshoe or Varying Hare</i>	Sept. 1	Mar. 31, 2027	1	3

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

#### **WILD TURKEY**

Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<i>Turkey, Fall - Male or Female</i>			1	1
WMUs 1A, 2A, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, and 4D	Oct. 31	Nov. 13		
WMUs 1B, 3D, 4C, and 4E	Oct. 31	Nov. 8		
WMU 2B, 2C, 2D, and 2E	Oct. 26	Nov. 13		
WMUs 5A and 5B	Oct. 31	Nov. 3		
WMUs 5C and 5D	Closed to fall turkey hunting			
<i>Turkey, Spring</i> <sup>2</sup> Bearded Bird only, Junior License Holders and Mentored Permit Holders age 16 and under	Apr. 24, 2027	Apr. 25, 2027	1	1
<i>Turkey, Spring</i> <sup>2</sup> Bearded Bird only	May 1, 2027	May 16, 2027	1	1
	and		May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon	
	May 17, 2027	May 31, 2027	May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	

# WHITE-TAILED DEER

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
<b>Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless)</b> <sup>3</sup> With the required archery license WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B	Oct. 3 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20  Jan. 24, 2027	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Archery (Antlered and Antlerless)</b> <sup>3</sup> With the required archery license WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 19 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20  Jan. 24, 2027	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Muzzleloader (Antlerless only)</b> With the required muzzleloading license	Oct. 17	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Special firearms (Antlerless only)</b> Only Junior and Senior License Holders <sup>4</sup> , Mentored Permit Holders <sup>1</sup> , Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces or United States Coast Guard	Oct. 22	Oct. 25	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Regular Firearms (Antlered and Antlerless)</b> <sup>3</sup> Statewide	Nov. 21	Dec. 6	One antlered deer, and an antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless)</b> Statewide, only on properties enrolled in the Deer Management Assistance Program	Dec. 26	Jan. 3, 2027	An antlerless deer with each required DMAP harvest permit.
<b>Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless)</b> WMUs 4A, 4C, 4D, and 5A	Dec. 26	Jan. 18, 2027	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Extended Regular firearms (Antlerless)</b> WMUs 2B, 5C, and 5D	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2027	An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Flintlock (Antlered or Antlerless)</b> <sup>3</sup> With the required muzzleloading license Statewide	Dec. 26	Jan. 24, 2027	One antlered or one antlerless deer, plus an additional antlerless deer with each required antlerless license.
<b>Deer, Antlerless</b> (Letterkenny Army Depot, Franklin County and New Cumberland Army Depot, York County and Fort Detrick, Raven Rock Site, Adams County)	Hunting is permitted on days established by the United States Department of the Army.		An antlerless deer with each required antlerless license
<b>Deer, Agricultural Deer Control (Antlerless)</b> With required agricultural deer control harvest permit	Aug. 1, 2026	Apr. 15, 2027	An antlerless deer with each required agricultural deer control harvest permit.

**BLACK BEAR**

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 19	Nov. 20	1
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5</sup> WMUs 3D and 5B	Oct. 3	Nov. 20	1
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	1
<b><i>Bear, Muzzleloader</i></b> <sup>5</sup> (Statewide)	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	1
<b><i>Bear, Special firearms</i></b> <sup>5</sup> Only Junior and Senior License Holders <sup>4</sup> , Mentored Permit Holders <sup>1</sup> , Commission Disabled Person Permit Holders (to use a vehicle as a blind), and Residents serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces, or in the United States Coast Guard (Statewide)	Oct. 24	Oct. 25	1
<b><i>Bear, Regular Firearms</i></b> <sup>5</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 14	Nov. 17	1
<b><i>Bear, Extended firearms</i></b> <sup>5</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C, and 5D	Nov. 21	Dec. 6	1
<b><i>Bear, Extended firearms</i></b> <sup>5</sup> WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C, 4E and 5A	Nov. 21	Nov. 29	1

**ELK**

Species	First Day	Last Day	Season Limit
<b><i>Elk, Special Conservation Tag</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>and Special-License Tag</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	July 1	Nov. 8	1
<b><i>Elk, Archery</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Sept. 12	Sept. 27	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular – First</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Oct. 3	Oct. 11	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular – Second</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Oct. 31	Nov. 8	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular – Third</i></b> <sup>6</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Jan. 9, 2027	Jan. 17, 2027	1

# **FUR TAKING – TRAPPING**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<b><i>Mink and Muskrat</i></b>	Nov. 21	Jan. 10, 2027	Unlimited	
<b><i>Beaver</i></b>	Dec. 19	Mar. 31, 2027		
WMUs 1A and 1B (Combined)			20	60
WMUs 2A, 2B and 3C (Combined)			20	40
WMUs 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 3A, 3B, 3D, 5C and 5D (Combined)			20	20
WMUs 2G, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A and 5B (Combined)			5	5
<b><i>Coyote, Fox, Opossum, Raccoon, Striped Skunk and Weasel</i></b>	Oct. 24	Feb. 21, 2027		Unlimited
<b><i>Coyote and Fox</i></b> Use of cable restraint devices authorized with required certification	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2027		Unlimited
<b><i>Bobcat, with required bobcat permit</i></b> WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Dec. 19	Jan. 10, 2027		1
<b><i>Fisher, with required fisher permit</i></b> WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 19	Jan. 10, 2027		1
<b><i>River Otter, with required otter permit</i></b> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C and 4E	Feb. 13, 2027	Feb. 21, 2027		1

# **FUR TAKING – HUNTING**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<b><i>Coyote – (Outside of any big game season)</i></b>	May be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker's license.		Unlimited	
<b><i>Coyote – (During any big game season)</i></b>	May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker's license.		Unlimited	
<b><i>Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel</i></b>	July 1	June 30, 2027	Unlimited	

May be hunted any hour, day or night, from July 1 – Nov. 20 and Dec. 7– June 30, 2027. May only be hunted from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise from Nov. 21–Dec. 6



Species	First Day	Last Day	Daily Limit	Season Limit
<b><i>Fox and Raccoon</i></b>	Oct. 24	Feb. 21, 2027	Unlimited	May be hunted any hour, day or night, from Oct. 24 – Nov. 20 and Dec. 7 – Feb. 21, 2027. May only be hunted from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise from Nov. 21–Dec. 6
<b><i>Bobcat, with required bobcat permit</i></b> WMUs 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Jan. 9, 2027	Feb. 3, 2027	1	1
<b><i>Porcupine</i></b>	Oct. 10 and Dec. 7 and Dec. 26	Nov. 20 Dec. 24 Jan. 31, 2027	3	10

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

<sup>1</sup> Includes mentored youth and mentored adults with a valid mentored hunter permit issued under Chapter 147, Subchapter X (relating to Special Permits; Mentored Hunting Program Permit).

<sup>2</sup> Only one spring gobbler may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>3</sup> Only one antlered deer (buck) may be taken during the hunting license year.

<sup>4</sup> Includes resident and nonresident license holders who have reached or will reach their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday in the year of the application for the license and hold a valid adult license or qualify for license and fee exemptions under 34 Pa.C.S., § 2706 (relating to resident license and fee exemptions).

<sup>5</sup> Only one bear may be taken during the hunting license year with the required bear license.

<sup>6</sup> Only one elk may be taken during the hunting license year with the required elk license.

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 137.35.

Commentary: In order to more effectively manage Chronic Wasting Disease within this Commonwealth and also simplify current regulations, the Commission is proposing to amend § 137.35 (relating to Chronic Wasting Disease restriction) to: 1) eliminate the restrictions on interstate and intrastate movement of high-risk parts; 2) eliminate the related restrictions requiring the use of a cooperating processor or taxidermist; 3) expand statewide the prohibition against the disposal of high-risk parts on the landscape; 4) eliminate the prohibition on the use of cervid urine-based attractants in any outdoor setting; and 5) provide the Executive Director of the Commission with the discretionary authority to establish targeted restrictions on the feeding of wild cervids.

CHAPTER 137. WILDLIFE

§ 137.35. Chronic Wasting Disease restrictions.

(a) ~~[Importation]~~ General.

~~[(1) — General rule. It is unlawful to import any high risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed outside of this Commonwealth.~~

~~(2) — Exceptions. This subsection may not be construed to:~~

~~(i) — Limit the importation of non high risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed outside of this Commonwealth.~~

~~(ii) — Limit the importation of high risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed outside of this Commonwealth if the parts or materials are transported directly to any location or facility designated and approved in advance by the Commission to receive high risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, or butchering purposes. Locations or facilities designated and approved to receive high risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy or butchering purposes will be made known through public announcement, web site and other means reasonably intended to reach the widest audience. The following apply:~~

~~(A) — Application. A location or facility seeking approval to receive high risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy or butchering purposes shall submit a completed application on a form and in the manner established by the Commission. Applications must include the applicant's name, business address, phone number, name of current commercial refuse pickup service or other approved disposal method, and any other information required by the Commission.~~

~~(B) — Approved locations and facilities. A location or facility approved by the Commission to receive high risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, or butchering purposes shall dispose of all high risk cervid parts through a commercial refuse pickup service or other method approved by the Commission. An approved location or~~

~~facility shall keep and maintain records of their use of an approved disposal method and provide access to these records upon request of the Commission. An approved location or facility shall also provide the Commission access to its location or facility during normal business hours to collect biological data and samples from harvested cervids.~~

~~(b) — *Exportation.*~~

~~(1) — *General rule.* It is unlawful to remove or export any high-risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed, including by vehicular accident, within any Disease Management or Established Area established within this Commonwealth.~~

~~(2) — *Exceptions.* This subsection may not be construed to:~~

~~(i) — Limit the removal or exportation of non-high-risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed within any Disease Management or Established Area established within this Commonwealth.~~

~~(ii) — Limit the removal or exportation of high-risk parts or materials from cervids harvested, taken or killed in any Disease Management or Established Area established within this Commonwealth if the parts or materials are transported directly to any location or facility designated and approved in advance by the Commission to receive high-risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, butchering or harvest reporting purposes. Locations or facilities designated and approved to receive high-risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, butchering or harvest reporting purposes will be made known through public announcement, web site and other means reasonably intended to reach the widest audience. The following apply:~~

~~(A) — *Application.* A location or facility seeking approval to receive high-risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, butchering or harvest reporting purposes shall submit a completed application on a form and in the manner established by the Commission. Applications must include the applicant's name, business address, phone number, name of current commercial refuse pickup service or other approved disposal method, and any other information required by the Commission.~~

~~(B) — *Approved locations and facilities.* A location or facility approved by the Commission to receive high-risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, butchering or harvest reporting purposes shall dispose of high-risk cervid parts only through a commercial refuse pickup service or other method approved by the Commission. An approved location or facility shall keep and maintain records of their use of an approved disposal method and provide access to these records upon request of Commission. An approved location facility shall also provide the Commission access to their location or facility during normal business hours to collect biological data and samples from harvested cervids.~~

~~(b.1) — *Additional restrictions.*]~~

(1) All cervids harvested, taken or killed within any Disease Management [or Established] Area established within this Commonwealth or imported into this Commonwealth are subject to disease testing. This testing may require hunters to present cervids, or cervid parts, for checking and sampling at prescribed locations under conditions in a forthcoming notice. The submission process, if any, will be made known through public

announcement, web site and other means reasonably intended to reach the widest audience. The cost of testing, sampling and analysis will be borne by the Commission.

(2) It is unlawful to rehabilitate wild, free-ranging cervids within any Disease Management ~~[or Established]~~ Area established within this Commonwealth.

(3) ~~[It is unlawful to use or possess cervid urine based attractants in any outdoor setting within any Disease Management or Established Area established within this Commonwealth.]~~

(4) It is unlawful to directly or indirectly feed wild, free-ranging cervids within any part or portion of a Disease Management ~~[or Established]~~ Area ~~[established within this Commonwealth]~~ designated by the Executive Director. This prohibition may not be construed to apply to normal or accepted agricultural, habitat management, oil and gas drilling, mining, forest management, or other legitimate commercial or industrial practices. If otherwise lawful feeding is attracting cervids, the Commission may provide written notice prohibiting this activity. Failure to discontinue this activity is a violation of this section.

~~[(5)]~~ (4) The Commission will not issue any new permit to possess or transport live cervids within any Disease Management ~~[or Established]~~ Area established within this Commonwealth.

~~[(6)]~~ (5) It is unlawful to transport or move a cervid harvested, taken or killed outside of or anywhere within this Commonwealth ~~[or within any Disease Management or Established Area]~~ from the location of harvest or kill and thereafter place or dispose of any high-risk cervid parts on the landscape anywhere within the Commonwealth. High-risk cervid parts shall be disposed of only through a commercial refuse pickup service or other method approved by the Commission.

~~[(e)]~~ (b) *Nonapplicability.*

(1) Nothing in this section shall be construed to extend to the regulation of Captive cervids held under 3 Pa.C.S. Chapter 23 (relating to Domestic Animal Law) or the requirements of a lawful quarantine order issued by the Department of Agriculture.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the Commission's authority to establish or enforce additional importation, exportation, possession, transportation, or testing requirements or restrictions on cervid parts or materials under the authority of § 137.34 (relating to wildlife disease and emergency authority of Director).

~~[(d)]~~ (c) *Authority to designate.* The Executive Director has the authority to designate and publish Disease Management ~~[and Established]~~ Areas and prohibited feeding areas established within this Commonwealth. The Executive Director will publish this list and any updates in the Pennsylvania Bulletin.

~~[(e)]~~ (d) *Definitions.* The following words and terms, when used in this section, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

*CWD--Chronic Wasting Disease*--The transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids.

*Cervid*--Any member of the family Cervidae (deer), specifically including, but not limited to, the following species: black-tailed deer; caribou; elk; fallow deer; moose; mule deer; red deer; sika deer; white-tailed deer; and any hybrids thereof.

*Disease Management Area*--Any geographic area of this Commonwealth influenced by a positive case of CWD and targeted by the Commission for CWD management activities.

~~[Established Area--Any geographic area of this Commonwealth that is within a Disease Management Area and has a higher concentration of disease prevalence that is targeted by the Commission for enhanced CWD management activities.]~~

*Feeding*--The act of placing any artificial or natural substance for the use or consumption of wild, free-ranging cervids on an annual, seasonal or emergency basis.

*High-risk parts or materials*--Any parts or materials, derived from cervids, which are known to accumulate abnormal prions. This includes any of the following: head (including brain, tonsils, eyes and lymph nodes); spinal cord/backbone (vertebra); spleen; skull plate with attached antlers, if visible brain or spinal cord material is present; cape, if visible brain or spinal cord material is present; upper canine teeth, if root structure or other soft material is present; any object or article containing visible brain or spinal cord material; and brain-tanned hide.

*Non-high-risk parts or materials*--Any parts or materials, derived from cervids, which are not known to accumulate abnormal prions. This includes any of the following: meat, without the backbone; skull plate with attached antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord material is present; tanned hide or rawhide with no visible brain or spinal cord material present; cape, if no visible brain or spinal cord material is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft material is present; and taxidermy mounts, if no visible brain or spinal cord material is present.

~~[(f)] (e)~~ *Violations.* A person violating a requirement or restriction in this section may be prosecuted under section 2102 or 2307 of the act (relating to regulations; and unlawful taking or possession of game or wildlife) and, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay the fine prescribed in the act. ~~[The Commission may deny, revoke or suspend a location or facility's authorization to receive high risk cervid parts for waste disposal, taxidermy, butchering or harvest reporting purposes from any cervid harvested, taken or killed outside of this Commonwealth or within any Disease Management or Established Area as set forth in section 929(a) of the act (relating to revocation, suspension or denial of license, permit or registration).]~~

Action:

C. Create 58 Pa. Code §§ 147.681a-147.687a.

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to create §§ 147.681a-147.687a (relating to purpose; certified hunter permit application and eligibility; certified hunter background check; certified hunter permit; and violations) to implement a program to foster collaborative partnerships between landowners and hunters throughout the Commonwealth to manage wildlife populations that threaten agricultural productivity, natural resources, and ecological stability. This program will create a way to connect landowners with responsible, safe hunters to address growing conflicts between landowners and wildlife, and which will provide the tools and access necessary to make hunters effective while afield.

## CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

### Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL

#### CERTIFIED HUNTER PERMIT

##### § 147.681a. Purpose.

The purpose of §§ 147.682a--147.687a is to establish a program that facilitates the certification of eligible persons to assist landowners in their recruitment of qualified and reliable persons to assist in the harvest of white-tailed deer on the landowner's property to meet their respective deer management goals under the agriculture deer control program.

##### § 147.682a. Certified hunter permit application and eligibility.

(a) Application. Applications for a certified hunter permit will be made available through an online or electronically available system established by the Director.

(b) Hunting license. Applicants for a certified hunter permit are required to acquire and possess a valid general hunting license at the time of application and throughout the duration of the permit's effective term. Applicants are additionally required to have possessed a valid hunting license for the previous four out of five license years within this Commonwealth or any other state or nation.

(c) Course. New applicants for a certified hunter permit are required to take and pass a course approved by the Director which may include a written examination and shooting proficiency examination. Annual retesting is not required for renewal of a certified hunter permit in good standing.

(e) Background check. New applicants and renewing applicants must pass an annual background check approved by the Director as set forth in § 147.685a (relating to certified hunter shooting background check).

§ 147.683a. Certified hunter background check.

Applicants for a certified hunter permit will be disqualified if the annual background check reflects, or the Commission identifies, a conviction on any official record or transcript maintained by the Commonwealth for one or more of the following categories of violations:

- (1) Any misdemeanor conviction within the past ten (10) years.
- (2) Any felony conviction.
- (3) Any conviction resulting in the revocation of the applicant's hunting and trapping privileges within the past ten (10) years.
- (4) Any Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. §§ 101, *et seq.*) violation within the past three (3) years.

§ 147.684a. Certified hunter permit.

(a) An applicant for a certified hunter permit who meets the eligibility requirements referenced in § 147.682a (relating to certified hunter permit application and eligibility) will be granted authorization to acquire the permit through PALS online or at any of the Commission's current issuing agent locations across the Commonwealth.

(b) A certified hunter permit authorizes its holder to make reservations to hunt and access pooled antlerless deer harvest opportunities on eligible properties enrolled in the agriculture deer control program.

(c) A certified hunter permit holder must strictly comply with all landowner restrictions listed on the electronic reservation system or on signage posted by the landowner at the property enrolled in the agriculture deer control program while accessing or using the property.

(d) A certified hunter permit holder is authorized to hunt and harvest antlerless deer under the agriculture deer control program by accessing pooled harvest opportunities that will remain accessible until the respective property's harvest quota is listed as exhausted on the Commission's electronic reservation system. A certified hunter permit holder is additionally authorized to hunt other game or wildlife having an open season and for which the permit holder has proper licensure for, unless otherwise restricted by the landowner.

(e) A certified hunter permit holder is authorized to hunt and take antlerless deer on eligible properties enrolled in the agriculture deer control program using only devices falling within each category of hunting devices that the person received a qualification under § 147.682a(c).

(f) *Tagging and reporting harvests.*

(1) *General rule.* A certified hunter permit holder harvesting an antlerless deer under the agriculture deer control program on a certified hunter enrolled property

shall report the harvest within 24 hours through the Commission's electronic reporting system. Any deer harvested by a certified hunter and transferred to the possession of another person shall be marked by attaching paper or ribbon to the ear of the antlerless deer carcass bearing the electronic reporting confirmation number.

(2) *Exception.* If a certified hunter permit holder is unable to access the Commission's electronic reporting system after the harvest of an antlerless deer to obtain a harvest reporting confirmation number, a certified hunter permit holder shall make and attach a harvest tag to the ear of the antlerless deer which contains, in English, the person's C.I.D. number, date, township, if known, and county where the antlerless deer was harvested. The certified hunter permit holder shall thereafter report the harvest using the Commission's electronic reporting system once connectivity and/or functionality is restored.

§ 147.685a. Violations.

Violations of this subchapter will be prosecuted under section 2908 of the act (relating to violations). Furthermore, the Director may deny, revoke or suspend a permit for violation requirements, standards, or limitations of this subchapter upon written notice to the permittee.

Action:



D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.62

Commentary:

Under current regulation, body-gripping traps used for beaver and river otter are restricted in size to measure no larger than 10 inches in height by 12 inches in width. Many readily available body-gripping traps do not fall within these dimensions. In addition, newer round body-gripping traps are not currently legal simply because of their shape, despite having a similar diameter to the current width requirement. The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.62(b)(3) (relating to beaver and otter trapping) to allow traps no more than 14 inches from one jaw to the opposing jaw when set. These dimensions better reflect the range of trap sizes and designs that are appropriate for beaver and otter trapping within the Commonwealth. Furthermore, the proposed regulation will better accommodate traps currently available for use as well as those that may become available with new technology.

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.

(2) Place, check, reset or tend a trap or snare on an established beaver dam or beaver house, or within 15 feet of either a dam or a house. Measurement shall be from directly above the trap or snare, across the water, ice or land to the nearest point of the structure. 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.

(3) Set body-gripping traps larger than ~~[10 inches in height by 12 inches in width]~~ 14 inches in width or height, whichever is greatest, from one jaw to the opposing jaw when set.

(4) Set, tend or operate any number of traps or snares for beaver trapping in excess of the limits established by this paragraph.

\* \* \* \* \*

E. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 141.63 and 141.69

Commentary: The snap trap, often called a “rat trap,” is one of two trap types that was tested and approved by the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ Best Management Practices to target weasels. Several states allow for the use of a snap trap within an enclosure, often referred to as a “weasel box.” However, under current regulations, this is not a legal device to set for furbearers within the Commonwealth. The Commission is proposing to amend §§ 141.63 and § 141.69 (relating to definitions; artificial cubbies) to authorize this method of take by defining “snap trap,” (to be distinguished from the existing definition of “body-gripping trap”) and by providing an exception that would allow setting snap traps within artificial cubbies outside of a watercourse to specifically target weasels.

## CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

### Subchapter D. FURBEARERS

#### § 141.63. Definitions.

In addition to the definitions contained in the act and this part, the following words, when used in the enforcement of section 2361 of the act (relating to unlawful acts concerning taking of furbearers) have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

*Artificial cubby*--A baited enclosure constructed of natural or artificial material that is designed to house and corral a furbearer into a body-gripping trap.

*Body-gripping trap*--A jawed trap device designed to capture and kill a furbearer by compression of the neck or body through the operation of one or two rotating, spring-loaded jaws activated by a trigger.

*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.

*Cage or box trap*--An enclosure trap designed to capture and restrain a live furbearer by confinement in a cage or box through the operation and closure of a door or portal activated by a trigger.

*Foot encapsulating trap*--A device that has all triggering and restraining mechanisms enclosed by a housing which, once set, allows access to the triggering mechanism through a single opening not to exceed 2 inches in diameter or diagonally and is anchored by a swivel-mounted anchoring mechanism.

*Leg-hold trap*--A jawed trap device designed to capture and restrain a live furbearer by the foot through operation of one or two rotating, spring-loaded jaws activated by a trigger.

*Marsh, pond or dam*—A standing body of water.

*Snap trap* – A single, spring-loaded jawed trap device designed to capture or kill a furbearer. The jaw spread must exceed 2 inches by 3 inches but no more than 2 ¾ inches by 3 ½ inches.

*Snare*--A looped galvanized or stainless stranded steel cable 3/32 inches in diameter equipped with an approved lock listed in § 141.66(g) (relating to cable restraints). A metal ferrule shall be crimped on the cable to prevent the snare loop from closing to a circumference less than 7 inches.

*Waterway or watercourse*--A riverine system that contains water which includes the semi-permanent flooded area.

§ 141.69. Artificial cubbies.

(a) *General rule.* Furtakers are permitted to trap furbearers through the use of body-gripping traps set in artificial cubbies when the following conditions are met:

(1) The artificial cubby is placed within an established watercourse, waterway, marsh, pond or dam.

(2) The entrance to the artificial cubby does not exceed 50 square inches.

(3) The triggering mechanism of the trap is recessed within the artificial cubby at least 7 inches from the entrance.

(4) The artificial cubby is anchored in a manner so that it cannot be moved or rolled.

(b) *Exception.*

(1) *Mink or muskrat.* Subsection (a)(2)-(4) does not apply to body-gripping traps that are 5 1/2 inches or less and set in artificial cubbies to target mink or muskrat.

(2) *Weasel.* Subsection (a)(1)-(4) does not apply to snap traps that are set in artificial cubbies to target weasel.

## BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

### PROPOSED RULE MAKING

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 143.203 and 143.207.

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to amend §§ 143.203 and 143.207. (relating to random drawing elk licenses; unlawful acts) to provide for a simplified application structure, including the consolidation of any available bonus points purchased in the 2003-2004 license year and each subsequent license year.

#### CHAPTER 143. HUNTING AND FUR TAKER LICENSES

##### Subchapter K. ELK LICENSES

§ 143.203. Random drawing elk licenses.

(a) The Executive Director will set the date for the random drawing of applications for the issuance of random drawing elk licenses.

(b) Each unsuccessful application submitted in the 2003-2004 license year and each subsequent license year will generate a single bonus point for the applicant ~~[for the elk season type associated with the unsuccessful application]~~. Each current license year elk license application will also include one random number entry for each bonus point ~~[for elk season type]~~ held by the applicant. Each successfully drawn application will automatically reset to zero the applicant's bonus point count ~~[for the elk season type associated with the successful application]~~.

(c) Beginning January 1, 2026, an applicant that is successfully drawn for a random drawing elk license entitling them to take an antlered elk, will become ineligible to submit an application for any future random drawing elk license that would entitle them to take an antlered elk.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 143.207. Unlawful acts.

It is unlawful for a person to:

(1) Submit more than one application for an elk license ~~[for any elk season,]~~ during any hunting license year.

(2) Apply for or to receive a license contrary to the act or this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

Action:

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 143.41, 143.44, 143.45.

Commentary: In an effort to streamline the way antlerless deer licenses are sold, the Commission is proposing to amend §§ 143.41, 143.44, and 143.45 (relating to general; antlerless deer license application schedule; an Antlerless deer license application limits) to eliminate the current prescriptive application schedule. The amendment would maintain the current first-come, first-served process for obtaining an antlerless deer license and would further require the Commission to ensure their fair and equitable distribution. The amendment also clarifies that a person exercising the privileges of the license exemption provided under section 2706(a) of the Act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) is limited to one antlerless deer.

CHAPTER 143. HUNTING AND FUR TAKER LICENSES

Subchapter C. ANTLERLESS DEER LICENSES

§ 143.41. General.

(a) The purpose of this subchapter is to implement a structure and process that provides for the fair and equitable distribution of the antlerless deer licenses allocated by the Commission to each wildlife management unit annually.

(b) The Commission will establish the annual allocation of antlerless deer licenses for each wildlife management unit after its review of available management data.

(c) The Commission will accept applications for antlerless deer licenses allocated to each wildlife management unit on a first-come, first-served basis ~~[through one or more]~~ sales ~~[rounds]~~ process that will continue until the supply of licenses is exhausted for each wildlife management unit.

(d) *[Reserved]*.

\* \* \* \* \*

§ 143.44. Antlerless deer license application schedule.

~~[(a) — *Application schedule.* The Commission will make antlerless deer licenses available for application through PALS online and at each of its current issuing agent locations across this Commonwealth according to the following distribution schedule:~~

~~(1) — *Round 1.*~~

~~(i) — Beginning the fourth Monday in June for all resident applicants.~~

~~(ii) Beginning the second Monday in July for all nonresident applicants.~~

~~(2) Round 2. Beginning the fourth Monday in July for all resident and nonresident applicants.~~

~~(3) Round 3. Beginning the second Monday in August for all resident and nonresident applicants.~~

~~(4) Round 4. Beginning the fourth Monday in August for all resident and nonresident applicants.~~

~~(b) Application time. The Commission will open sales on the date for each respective round of antlerless deer license sales beginning at 8 a.m. Eastern Daylight Time and sales will remain open thereafter for that respective round until allocations for each applicable wildlife management unit are exhausted.] The Commission will make antlerless deer licenses available in a manner it determines will ensure the fair and equitable distribution of the antlerless deer licenses.~~

§ 143.45. Antlerless deer license [application] limits.

~~(a) Application limit. [Except as otherwise provided in subsections (b) and (c), an eligible applicant may submit only one antlerless deer license application for each open antlerless deer license sales round listed in § 143.44 (relating to antlerless deer license application schedule). The Commission will reject all applications in excess of these limits.~~

~~(b) Catch-up allowance. An eligible applicant may submit multiple antlerless deer license applications in a single transaction if the applicant has not previously applied for an antlerless deer license during one or more previous open rounds, and only then equal to the number of rounds currently open on the date of application.~~

~~(c) Round 4 continuous sales.~~

~~(1) Subject to the procedures and limitations of paragraphs (2) and (3), an eligible applicant may submit multiple and continuous applications for antlerless deer licenses for each wildlife management unit whose antlerless deer license allocation remains unexhausted upon the opening of round 4 of antlerless deer license sales on the date set by the Commission as set forth in § 143.44. The authorizations of this subsection will terminate automatically for each wildlife management unit once its antlerless deer license allocation is exhausted.~~

~~(2)] (1)~~ Except as provided in paragraph ~~[(3)] (2)~~, an eligible applicant may make one or more applications for antlerless deer licenses ~~[under this subsection]~~ only when the Commission's PALS licensing system shows five or less active and unfulfilled antlerless deer licenses on the applicant's license profile. Once an applicant has been issued a sixth cumulative active and unfulfilled antlerless deer license, the applicant will not be eligible to make reapplication for additional antlerless licenses until one or more previously issued antlerless licenses have been exhausted by harvest and the harvest or harvests have resulted in a verified completed harvest report in PALS. Except as provided in paragraph (3), at no time is an applicant

authorized to exceed six cumulative active and unfulfilled antlerless licenses in their PALS license profile.

~~[(3)]~~ (2) In wildlife management units 5C and 5D, an eligible applicant may make one or more applications for antlerless deer licenses ~~[under this subsection]~~ only when the Commission's PALS licensing system shows 14 or fewer active and unfulfilled antlerless deer licenses on the applicant's license profile. Once an applicant has been issued a fifteenth cumulative active and unfulfilled antlerless deer license, the applicant will not be eligible to make reapplication for additional antlerless licenses until one or more previously issued antlerless licenses have been exhausted by harvest and the harvest or harvests have resulted in a verified completed harvest report in PALS. Except as provided in this paragraph, at no time is an applicant authorized to exceed 15 cumulative active and unfulfilled antlerless licenses in their PALS license profile.

~~[(e)]~~ (b) *Resident agricultural lands exception.* A person exercising the privileges of the license exemption provided under section 2706(a) of the act (relating to resident license and fee exemptions) on eligible lands is not entitled or required to obtain an antlerless deer license under this subchapter, but is subject to ~~[the same antlerless deer season limits that would otherwise apply to a licensed person hunting the wildlife management units covering the eligible lands as follows:~~

~~(1) — Rounds 1, 2 and 3. An eligible person is authorized to harvest one deer for every antlerless deer license sales round, up to round 3, that is opened for the applicable wildlife management unit as set forth in § 143.44. Authorization to harvest an antlerless deer may not be acquired for a round subsequent to round 1, round 2 or round 3 if the allocation for the applicable wildlife management unit is exhausted before the subsequent round opens.~~

~~(2) — Round 4. An eligible person is authorized to harvest multiple and continuous antlerless deer up to the limits and subject to the reporting requirements and closure dates of subsection (c). The authorizations of this paragraph will terminate automatically for an eligible person hunting within an applicable wildlife management unit once the wildlife management unit's antlerless license allocation is exhausted]~~ a season limit of one antlerless deer.

## BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION

### PROPOSED RULE MAKING

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.4.

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.4 (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 2026-2027 hunting/trapping license year.

#### CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

##### Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.4. Hunting hours.

Except as otherwise provided, wild birds and mammals may be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset as illustrated in Appendix G.

\* \* \* \* \*



# Appendix G. HUNTING HOURS

## HUNTING HOURS TABLE FOR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
July 1 – 4	5:07	9:03	Jan. 3 – 9	6:53	5:18
July 5 – 11	5:12	9:00	Jan. 10 – 16	6:52	5:24
July 12 – 18	5:17	8:56	Jan. 17 – 23	6:50	5:32
July 19 – 25	5:23	8:51	Jan. 24 – Jan. 30	6:46	5:40
July 26 – Aug. 1	5:29	8:44	Jan. 31 – Feb. 6	6:40	5:48
Aug. 2 – 8	5:36	8:36	Feb. 7 – 13	6:33	5:57
Aug. 9 – 15	5:42	8:27	Feb. 14 – 20	6:25	6:05
Aug. 16 – 22	5:49	8:17	Feb. 21 – 27	6:16	6:13
Aug. 23 – 29	5:56	8:07	Feb. 28 – Mar. 6	6:06	6:21
Aug. 30 – Sept. 5	6:02	7:56	Mar. 7 – 13	5:55	6:29
Sept. 6 – 12	6:09	7:44	Mar. 14 – 20	5:44	6:36
Sept. 13 – 19	6:15	7:33	Mar. 21 – 27	5:33	6:44
Sept. 20 – 26	6:22	7:21	Mar. 28 – Apr. 3 *Begins	6:21	7:51
Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	6:29	7:10	Apr. 4 – 10	6:10	7:58
Oct. 4 – 10	6:36	6:58	Apr. 11 – 17	5:59	8:05
Oct. 11 – 17	6:43	6:48	Apr. 18 – 24	5:49	8:12
Oct. 18 – 24	6:51	6:38	Apr. 25 – May 1	5:39	8:19
Oct. 25 – 31	6:59	6:29	May 2 – 8	5:30	8:26
Nov. 1 – 7 **Ends	6:07	5:21	May 9 – 15	5:22	8:33
Nov. 8 – 14	6:15	5:15	May 16 – 22	5:15	8:40
Nov. 15 – 21	6:23	5:10	May 23 – 29	5:09	8:46
Nov. 22 – 28	6:30	5:07	May 30 – June 5	5:05	8:52
Nov. 29 – Dec. 5	6:37	5:05	June 6 – 12	5:02	8:57
Dec. 6 – Dec. 12	6:43	5:05	June 13 – 19	5:02	9:00
Dec. 13 – 19	6:48	5:06	June 20 – 26	5:03	9:03
Dec. 20 – 26	6:51	5:08	June 27 – 30	5:05	9:03
Dec. 27 – Jan. 2	6:53	5:12	*Daylight Saving Time: *Begins; **Ends		

**MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING HOURS TABLE  
FOR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027**

Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.	Dates	Begin A.M.	End P.M.
July 1 – 4	5:07	8:33	Jan. 3 – 9	6:53	4:48
July 5 – 11	5:12	8:30	Jan. 10 – 16	6:52	4:54
July 12 – 18	5:17	8:26	Jan. 17 – 23	6:50	5:02
July 19 – 25	5:23	8:21	Jan. 24 – 30	6:46	5:10
July 26 – Aug. 1	5:29	8:14	Jan. 31 – Feb. 6	6:40	5:18
Aug. 2 – 8	5:36	8:06	Feb. 7 – 13	6:33	5:27
Aug. 9 – 15	5:42	7:57	Feb. 14 – 20	6:25	5:35
Aug. 16 – 22	5:49	7:47	Feb. 21 – 27	6:16	5:43
Aug. 23 – 29	5:56	7:37	Feb. 28 – Mar. 6	6:06	5:51
Aug. 30 – Sept. 5	6:02	7:26	Mar. 7 – 13	5:55	5:59
Sept. 6 – 12	6:09	7:14	Mar. 14 – 20	5:44	6:06
Sept. 13 – 19	6:15	7:03	Mar. 21 – 27	5:33	6:14
Sept. 20 – 26	6:22	6:51	Mar. 28 – Apr. 3 *Begins	6:21	7:21
Sept. 27 – Oct. 3	6:29	6:40	Apr. 4 – 10	6:10	7:28
Oct. 4 – 10	6:36	6:28	Apr. 11 – 17	5:59	7:35
Oct. 11 – 17	6:43	6:18	Apr. 18 – 24	5:49	7:42
Oct. 18 – 24	6:51	6:08	Apr. 25 – May 1	5:39	7:49
Oct. 25 – 31	6:59	5:59	May 2 – 8	5:30	7:56
Nov. 1 – 7 **Ends	6:07	4:51	May 9 – 15	5:22	8:03
Nov. 8 – 14	6:15	4:45	May 16 – 22	5:15	8:10
Nov. 15 – 21	6:23	4:40	May 23 – 29	5:09	8:16
Nov. 22 – 28	6:30	4:37	May 30 – June 5	5:05	8:22
Nov. 29 – Dec. 5	6:37	4:35	June 6 – 12	5:02	8:27
Dec. 6 – 12	6:43	4:35	June 13 – 19	5:02	8:30
Dec. 13 – 19	6:48	4:36	June 20 – 26	5:03	8:33
Dec. 20 – 26	6:51	4:38	June 27 – 30	5:05	8:33
Dec. 27 – Jan. 2	6:53	4:42	*Daylight Saving Time: *Begins; **Ends		

Action:

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.5.

Commentary: On September 8, 2025, the Act of July 9, 2025 (P.L. 122, No. 36, § 1) became effective. In relevant part, Act 36 repealed the longstanding general prohibition on hunting on Sunday within the Commonwealth. Notwithstanding the passage of Act 36, § 139.5 (relating to regulated hunting grounds) continues to restrict Sunday hunting on commercial regulated hunting grounds. The Pennsylvania Game Breeders Association has since requested the Commission remove the Sunday restriction. The Commission, in its review, did not identify any significant justifications to maintain the prohibition. Therefore, the Commission is proposing to amend § 139.5 to remove the Sunday hunting prohibition on commercial regulated hunting grounds.

CHAPTER 139. SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

§ 139.5. Regulated hunting grounds.

(a) The period to hunt on regulated hunting areas will be the first Monday in September through the last Saturday in April for both private and commercial areas. ~~[Sunday hunting is prohibited on commercial areas.]~~

(b) Shooting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

(c) Seasons for taking unmarked mallard ducks and other waterfowl on regulated hunting grounds will conform with established waterfowl seasons.

(d) This section may be amended to comply with further restrictions or modifications as established by the Director, the Commission or Federal authority fixing hunting hours and seasons.

Action:

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 135.41.

Commentary: On September 8, 2025, the Act of July 9, 2025 (P.L. 122, No. 36, § 1) became effective. In relevant part, Act 36 repealed the longstanding general prohibition on hunting on Sunday within the Commonwealth. Notwithstanding the passage of Act 36, § 135.41 (relating to State game lands) continues to maintain an exception to allowing a person, not otherwise hunting, trapping or fishing, to ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal on State game lands. The Commission is proposing to amend § 135.41(c)(5) to remove this exception and replace it with the more definitive closure periods of October 1 through January 31 and April 1 through May 31. This change will reduce conflicts with lawful hunting, trapping, and fishing activities occurring on Sundays during applicable open seasons. The Commission is also proposing to amend § 135.41(c)(21) to extend this same date range to the fluorescent orange requirement applicable to persons not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping on State game lands. These amendments will promote improved safety and consistency in the restrictions concerning access to and the use of State game lands by persons not engaged in lawful hunting or trapping.

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:

\* \* \* \* \*

(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:

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal from ~~[the last Saturday in September until the third Saturday in January, and before 1 p.m. from the second Saturday in April through the last Saturday in May inclusive, except on Sundays or]~~ October 1 through January 31, inclusive, and from April 1 through May 31, inclusive, except while lawfully engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing.

\* \* \* \* \*

(21) Be present on State game lands from ~~[November 15 through December 15 inclusive]~~ October 1 through January 31, inclusive, when not engaged in lawful

hunting or trapping and fail to wear a minimum of 250 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange-colored material on the head, chest and back combined or, in lieu thereof, a hat of the same colored material. The material shall be worn so it is visible in a 360° arc. Persons using shooting ranges are exempted from this requirement.

\* \* \* \* \*

Action:

DRAFT

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 147.556.

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to amend § 147.556 (relating to lawful devices and methods) to allow a person issued an agriculture deer control harvest permit to hunt and take deer with any lawful device authorized for use during the regular firearms season. This amendment removes the text requiring a person to use lesser devices during periods of overlap with traditional white-tailed deer hunting seasons, such as archery and muzzleloader seasons. However, notwithstanding the proposed expansion, it is important to note that landowners maintain the authority to restrict the use of any devices and methods on their own lands.

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL; AGRICULTURE

§ 147.556. Lawful devices and methods.

(a) *Devices.*

~~[(1) — *General rule.* Except as provided in paragraph (2), a]~~ A person issued an agriculture deer control harvest permit is authorized to hunt and take deer with a lawful device as may be authorized for hunting deer during the regular firearms deer season as provided in the act and § 141.43(d) (relating to deer seasons).

~~[(2) — *Exception.* During the overlap with a traditional white-tailed deer hunting season established in § 139.4 (relating to seasons and bag limits for the license year), a person issued an agriculture harvest permit is authorized to hunt and take deer with a lawful device authorized for hunting deer during the applicable white-tailed deer season as provided in the act and § 141.43 (relating to deer seasons).]~~

(b) *Methods.* A person issued a harvest permit for an agriculture deer control area in the southeast special regulations area is authorized to hunt or take deer through the use of or by taking advantage of bait in the manner set forth in § 141.1(d)(7) (relating to special regulations areas).

(c) *Further restrictions.* An agriculture deer control permit holder may further restrict the use of devices and methods authorized under this section on lands under the agriculture deer control permit holder's ownership or control, or both.

Action:

E. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.1.

Commentary: The Commission is proposing to amend § 141.1 (relating to special regulations areas) to enhance the effectiveness in taking white tail deer through the use of bait within the special regulation counties, while at the same time simplifying the regulations for hunters.

## CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

### Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.1. Special regulation areas.

(a) *Name.* The areas shall be known and referred to as special regulations areas.

(b) *Descriptions.*

(1) *Southwest area.* Includes the County of Allegheny.

(2) *Southeast area.* Includes the Counties of Bucks, Montgomery, Chester, Delaware and Philadelphia and also includes Tyler and Ridley Creek State Parks and other publicly-owned lands therein.

\* \* \* \* \*

(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, federal, township, or municipal property only as set forth in this paragraph.

(i) *Purpose.* The purpose of this paragraph 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, federal, township or municipal property within the southeast special regulations area where landowners have suffered material damage to their real property and traditional hunting and deer control methods have proven ineffective in controlling local deer populations.

(ii) *Operation.* Landowners and persons they permit to hunt on their property may 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:

(A) This authorization only applies during regular open hunting seasons for white-tailed deer in the affected portion of each wildlife management unit located on private, township or municipal property within the southeast special regulations area.

~~(B) [A bait site may not be located less than 250 yards from any previously established bait site authorized under this paragraph.]~~

~~(C)~~ Approved bait may be ~~[distributed]~~ administered on the ground at each bait site ~~[by approved feeders]~~ from 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.

~~[(D) — Approved feeders are limited to sealed, waterproof, automatic, mechanical feeders that are set to distribute bait up to a maximum of three times per day during legal hunting hours only. The feeder must be visibly tagged or labeled with the full name and address of the landowner or an individual authorized by the landowner to use or place the approved feeder]~~ (C) A tag or label displaying the full name and address of the landowner, or an individual authorized by the landowner to administer bait at that location, shall be visibly placed in the immediate vicinity of the bait pile.

~~[(E)]~~ (D) Bait accumulation at any one bait site may not exceed 5 gallons total volume at any given time.

~~[(F)]~~ (E) Approved bait is limited to natural agricultural products intended for human or livestock consumption, including shelled corn, apples, and protein pellet supplements. Mineral blocks and mineral supplements are specifically not authorized under this paragraph.

~~[(G)]~~ (F) It is the sole responsibility of landowners and persons they permit to hunt on their property to ensure that the area bait site is in compliance with this paragraph prior to hunting in that area.

~~[(H)]~~ (G) The landowner and persons they permit to hunt on their property may not, under any circumstances, hunt, take, kill or harvest any game or wildlife other than white-tailed deer at the bait site or coming to and from the bait site.

\* \* \* \* \*

Action:



## ADOPTED RULE MAKING

F. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 147.804.

Commentary:

To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its September 5, 2025, meeting proposed to amend § 147.804 (relating to general) to allow a mentored youth under 7 years of age at the time of application to acquire big game tags with the purchase of their mentored hunting permit. This change would align the procedures for the issuance of big game tags to all three age groups (under 7 years of age, 7 to 17 years of age, and adult). This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter X. MENTORED HUNTING PROGRAM PERMIT

§ 147.804. General.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) *Tagging requirements.* Mentored youth and mentored adults 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).

(g) [Reserved].

(h) [Reserved].

(i) [Reserved].

(j) [Reserved].

(k) [Reserved].

(l) *Application for and issuance of big game harvest tags.* Mentored youth and mentored adult hunting permits will be issued with an antlered deer, fall turkey and spring turkey harvest tag. Mentored youth and mentored adults are additionally eligible to make application for a bear license, a special wild turkey license, and one antlerless deer license and as many DMAP harvest permits that are within the eligibility standards and limitations of these programs.

(m) *Application for and issuance of add-on licenses and permits.* Mentored youth and mentored adults are exempt from requirements to obtain archery and muzzleloader add-on licenses or stamps applicable to hunting archery or muzzleloader seasons for any species listed in subsection (c). Unless otherwise exempted by existing program standards, all mentored youth and mentored adults are required to obtain migratory bird licenses and pheasant permits to participate in hunting during applicable seasons for any associated species listed in subsection (c).

(n) [Reserved].

G. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 147.559.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its September 5, 2025 meeting, proposed to amend § 147.559 (relating to violations) to eliminate the text prohibiting a person from using, possessing, or attempting to use or possess more than four agricultural deer control permits for a specific permit area in any permit year. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

DRAFT

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL; AGRICULTURE

§ 147.559. Violations.

(a) It is unlawful to:

(1) *[Reserved]*.

(2) Use or possess or attempt to use or possess an agriculture deer control harvest permit that was issued to another person.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

### **ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 135.101.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its September 5, 2025 meeting, proposed to amend § 135.101 (relating to designation of special wildlife management areas) to designate the Poquessing Creek Wildlife Management Area as a special wildlife management area (Exhibit 1). This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 135. LANDS AND BUILDINGS

Subchapter F. SPECIAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

§ 135.101. Designation of special wildlife management areas.

\* \* \* \* \*

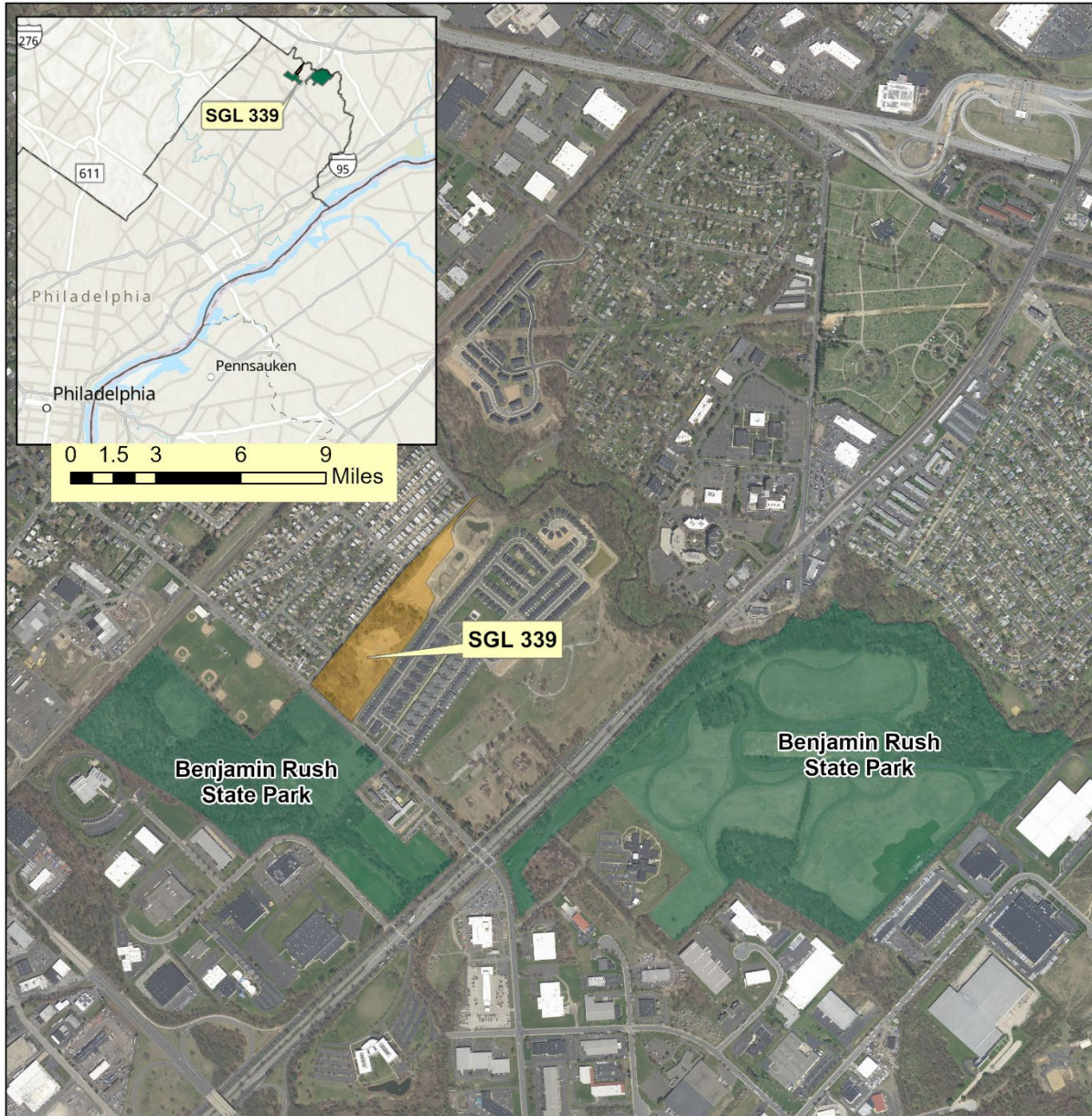
(c) *Designated special wildlife management areas.* The following areas of this Commonwealth are designated as a special wildlife management area:

(1) *Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area.* The area otherwise known as State Game Land No. 46, that is located in Clay, Elizabeth and West Cocalico Townships, Lancaster County and Heidelberg Township, Lebanon County.

(2) *Pymatuning Wildlife Management Area.* The area otherwise known as State Game Land No. 214, that is located in North Shenango, Pine, Sadsbury and West Fallowfield Townships, Crawford County.

(3) *Poquessing Creek Wildlife Management Area.* The area otherwise known as State Game Land No. 339, that is located in Philadelphia County.

(d) *Scope.* In addition to the requirements and limitations of §§ 135.2, 135.41 and 135.161 (relating to unlawful actions; State game lands; and Commission-owned or leased), the provisions of this subchapter shall govern public use and access to any area designated as a special wildlife management area.



## Exhibit 1

### State Game Land No. 339

Poquessing Creek Wildlife Management Area

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

City of Philadelphia  
Philadelphia County  
Southeast Region

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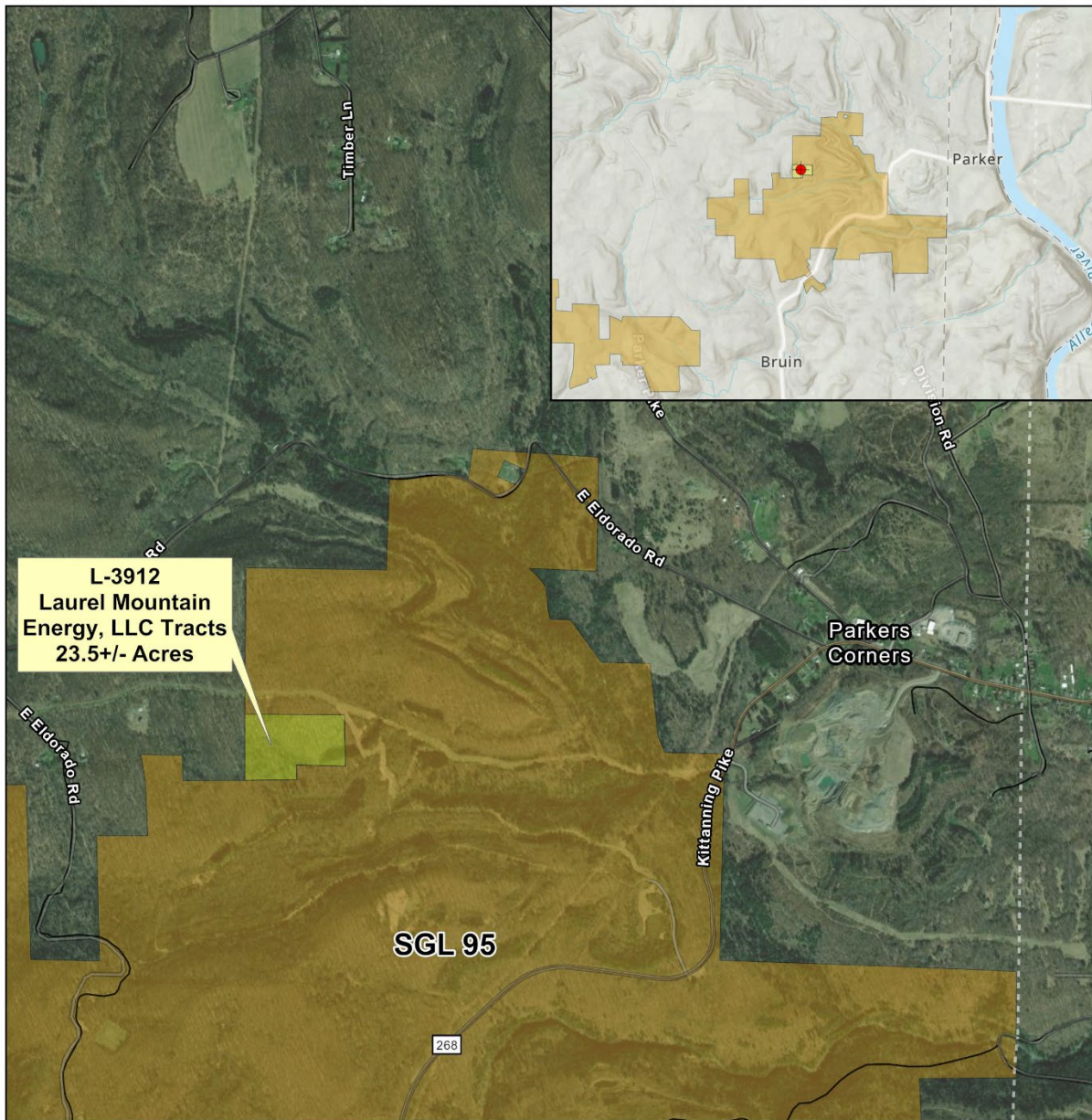
## REAL ESTATE

### B. Acquisition

Contract No. L-3912, State Game Land No. 95, Butler County

Commentary: Laurel Mountain Energy, LLC is offering 23.5+/- acres of land in Parker Township, Butler County, an indenture to State Game Land No. 95 (Exhibit RED 1). The option price is \$80,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)). This acquisition will improve the manageability of State Game Land No. 95. Laurel Mountain Energy, LLC is excepting and reserving the oil, gas, and minerals, but not the right to use the surface of the property for any future OGM development. Access is through existing State Game Land No. 95.

Action:



— Public Roads

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

## Exhibit RED 1

### State Game Land No. 95

L-3912  
Laurel Mountain Energy, LLC Tracts  
23.5+/- Acres

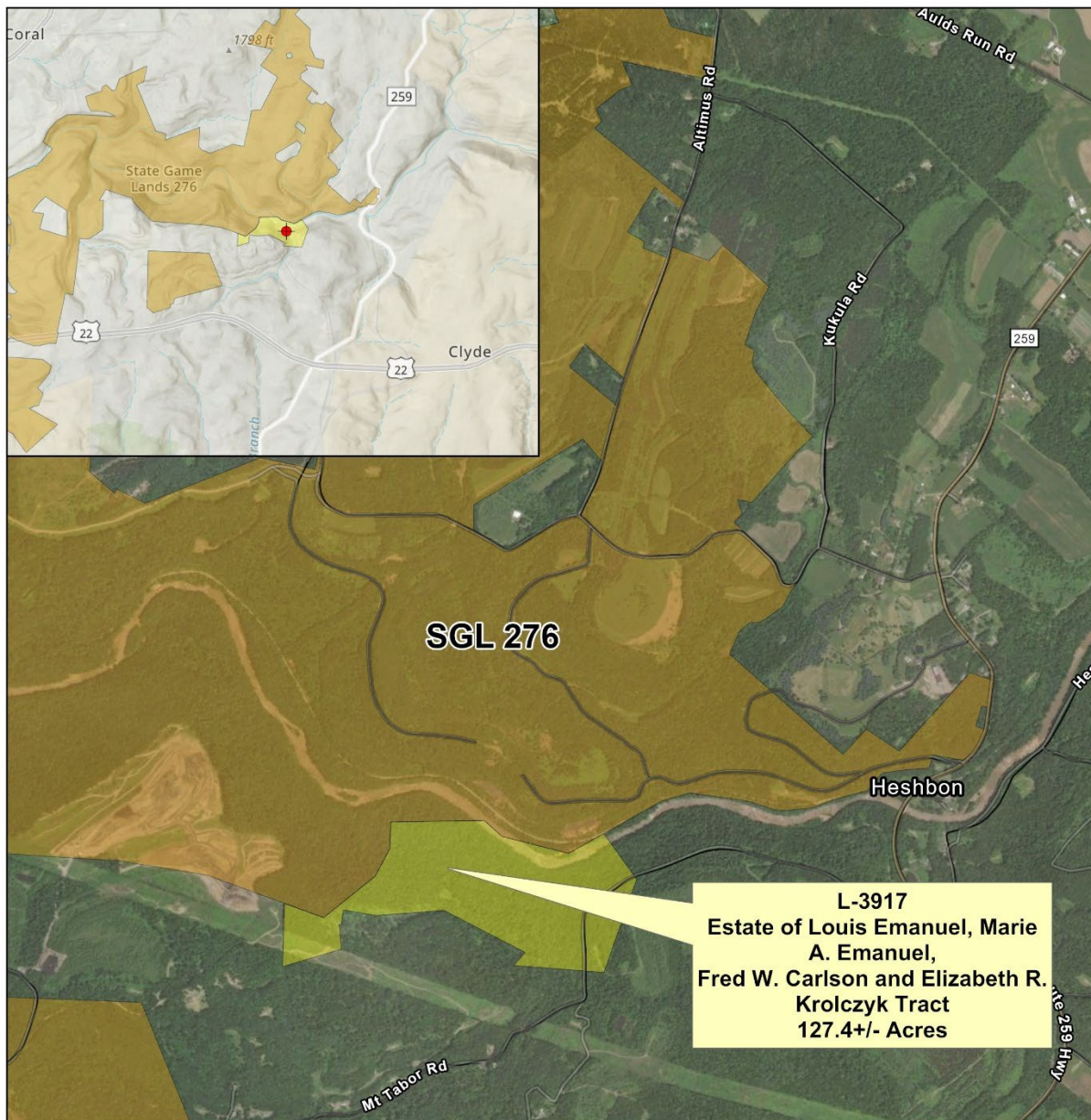
Parker Township  
Butler County  
Northwest Region

Contract No. L-3917, State Game Land No. 276, Indiana County

**Commentary:** The Estate of Louis Emanuel, Marie A. Emanuel, Fred W. Carlson and Elizabeth R. Krolczyk is offering 127.4+/- acres of land in West Wheatfield Township, Indiana County, adjacent to State Game Land No. 276 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$205,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)). This acquisition will provide road access to a portion of State Game Land No. 276 that is separated from the main parcel by Blacklick Creek and consequently does not have public road access. Subsurface rights were severed. Access is from Mt. Tabor Road.

**Action:**





— Public Roads

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

## Exhibit RED 2

### State Game Land No. 276

L-3917  
Estate of Louis Emanuel, Marie A. Emanuel,  
Fred W. Carlson and Elizabeth R. Krolczyk Tract  
127.4+/- Acres

West Wheatfield Township  
Indiana County  
Southwest Region

Contract No. L-3918, State Game Land No. 120, Clearfield County

Commentary: Brian S. and Rochelle Ann Bartley are offering a 25-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW) along 315+/- feet of existing road into State Game Land No. 120 in Chest Township, Clearfield County (Exhibit RED 3). The option price is \$15,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)). This ROW will provide administrative and lawful user access from Punkin Ridge Road (S.R.3003) to State Game Land No. 120 north and west of Hockenberry Run.

Action:





- Existing Access Road to PGC (315+/- Feet)
- 25' Right-of-Way to PGC (0.16+/- Acre)
- Brian S. & Rochelle Ann Bartley Property
- State Game Land Roads

0 100 200 400 600 800 US Feet

## Exhibit RED 3

### State Game Land No. 120

L-3918  
ROW to PGC

Chest Township  
Clearfield County  
Southwest Region

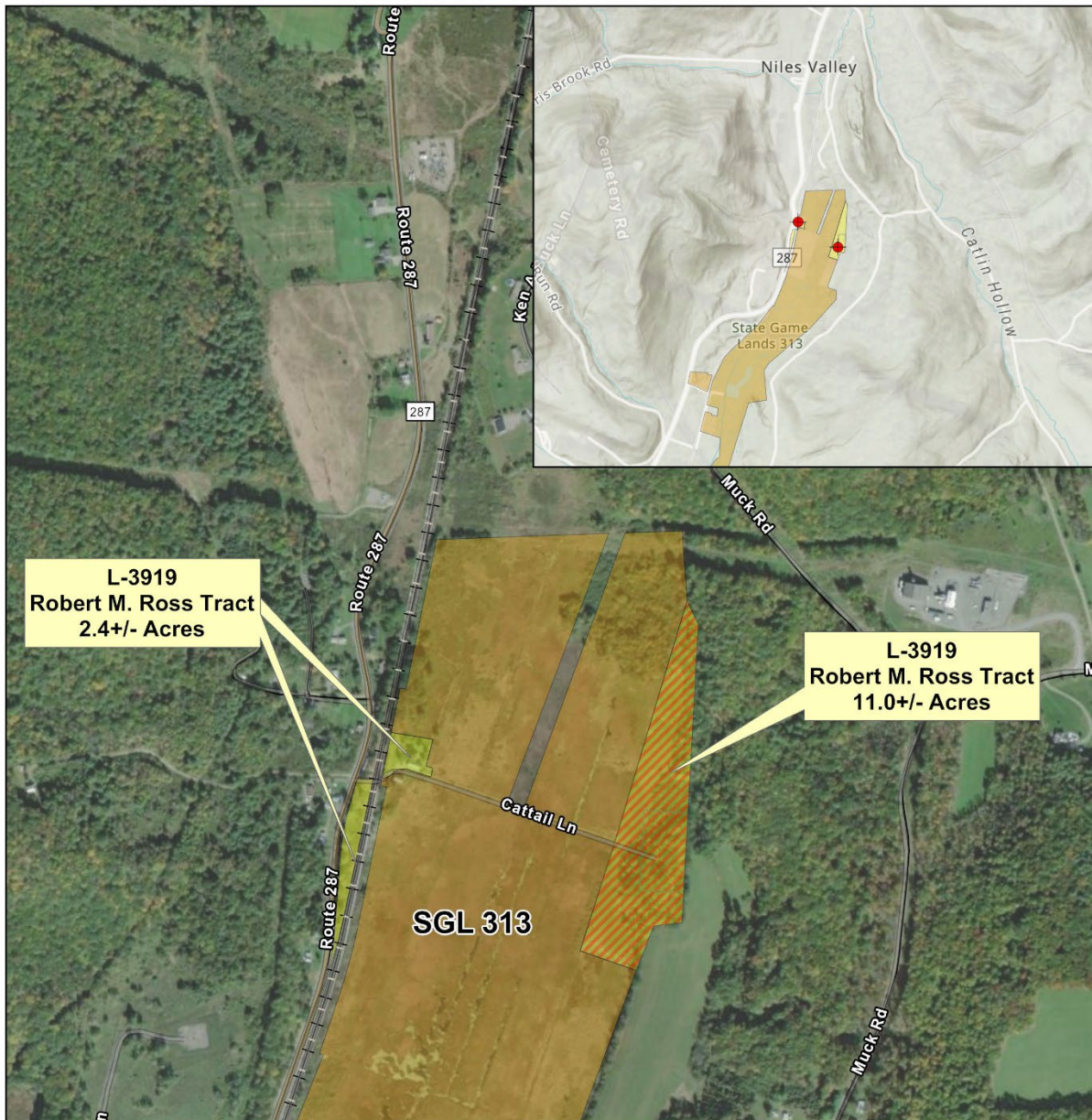
Contract No. L-3919, State Game Land No. 313, Tioga County

Commentary:

Robert M. Ross is offering 13.4+/- acres of land in Delmar Township, Tioga County, adjacent to State Game Land No. 313 (Exhibit RED 4). The option price is \$267,000 lump sum to be paid from the Commission's restricted account, representing settlement funds from environmental damage claims brought by the Commonwealth. This account represents other cost-sharing funds under Section 705(a) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(a)) and therefore this acquisition may exceed \$400 per acre. The landowner will retain a life estate on the 11-acre property. This acquisition is within the natural heritage area known as "the Muck," an area that contains the endangered American Bittern, Marsh Wren and nine other known species of greatest concern. Access is from Cattail Lane.

Action:





- + Railroad Bed
- Public Roads
- 11.0+/- Acres Life Estate

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

## Exhibit RED 4

### State Game Land No. 313

L-3919  
Robert M. Ross Tracts  
2.4+/- Acres  
11.0+/- Acres

Delmar Township  
Tioga County  
Northcentral Region



Contract Nos. L-3920, L-3921, L-3922, State Game Land No. 87, Clearfield County

Commentary: An 87.5% interest of 59+/- acres of land in Bell Township, Clearfield County, an interior to State Game Land No. 87 (Exhibit RED 5) has been offered for sale:

Violet Bolen is offering a 50% interest. The option price is \$88,500 lump sum.

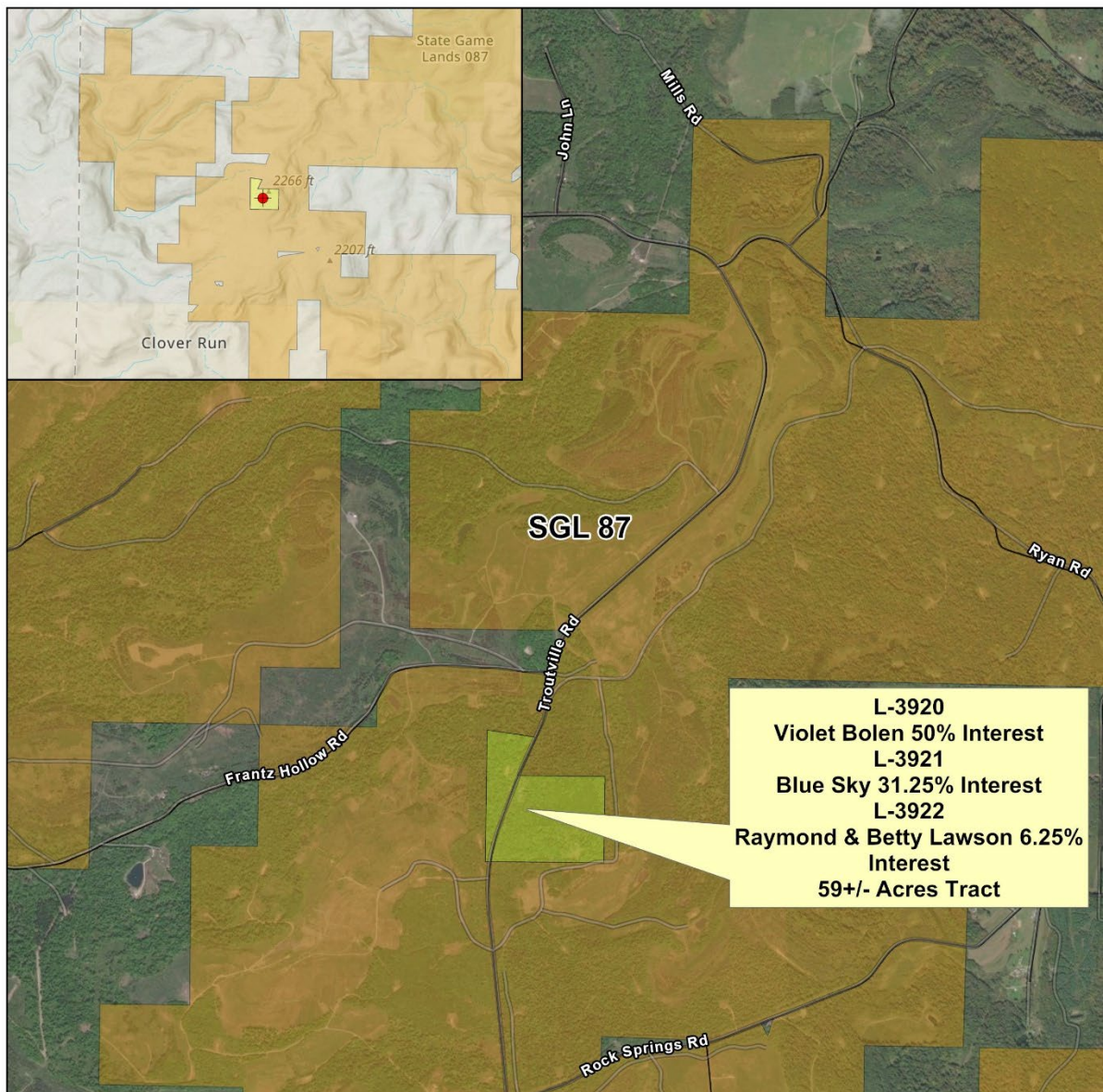
Blue Sky PA, L.P. is offering a 31.25% interest. The option price is \$62,000 lump sum.

Raymond and Betty Lawson are offering a 6.25% interest. The option price is \$11,062.50 lump sum.

All of these sums are to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)).

This parcel is a complete interior and is in a high priority grouse area. The subsurface interests were excepted and reserved. Access is from Troutville Road.

Action:



— Public Roads

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

## Exhibit RED 5

### State Game Land No. 87

**L-3920**  
**Violet Bolen 50% Interest**  
**L-3921**  
**Blue Sky 31.25% Interest**  
**L-3922**  
**Raymond & Betty Lawson 6.25% Interest**  
**59+/- Acres Tract**  
**Bell Township**  
**Clearfield County**  
**Northcentral Region**

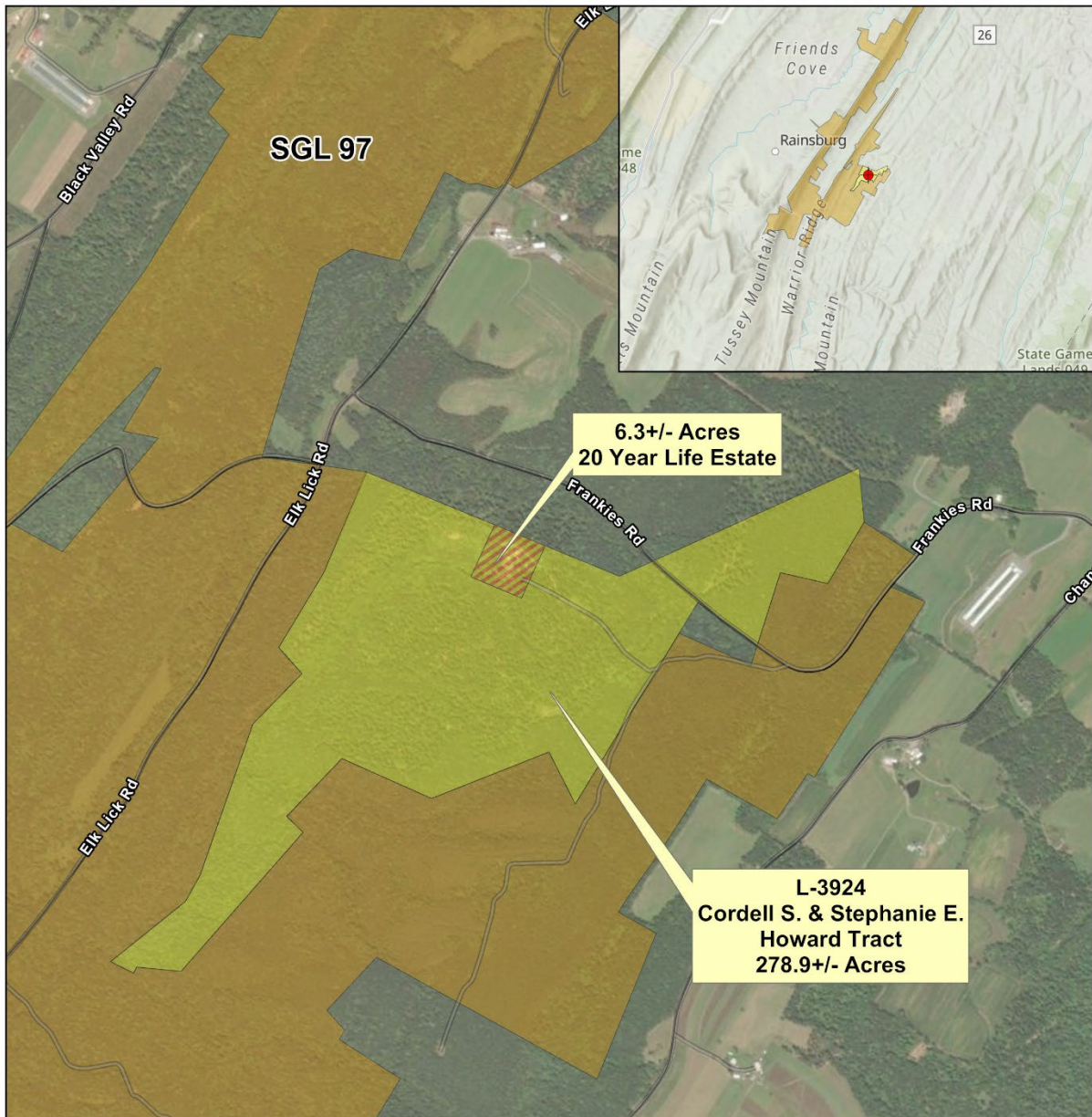
Contract No. L-3924, State Game Land No. 97, Bedford County

Commentary:

Cordell S. and Stephanie E. Howard are offering 278.9+/- acres of land in Monroe Township, Bedford County, an indenture to State Game Land No. 97 (Exhibit RED 6). The option price is \$650,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)). A portion of this acquisition will be subject to a 20-year life estate in favor of Mr. Howard. As an indenture, this acquisition will improve the manageability of the existing state game lands. Access is through existing State Game Land No. 97.

Action:





 6.3+/- Acres 20 Year Life Estate  
 Public Roads

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

## Exhibit RED 6

### State Game Land No. 97

L-3924  
 Cordell S. & Stephanie E. Howard Tract  
 278.9+/- Acres

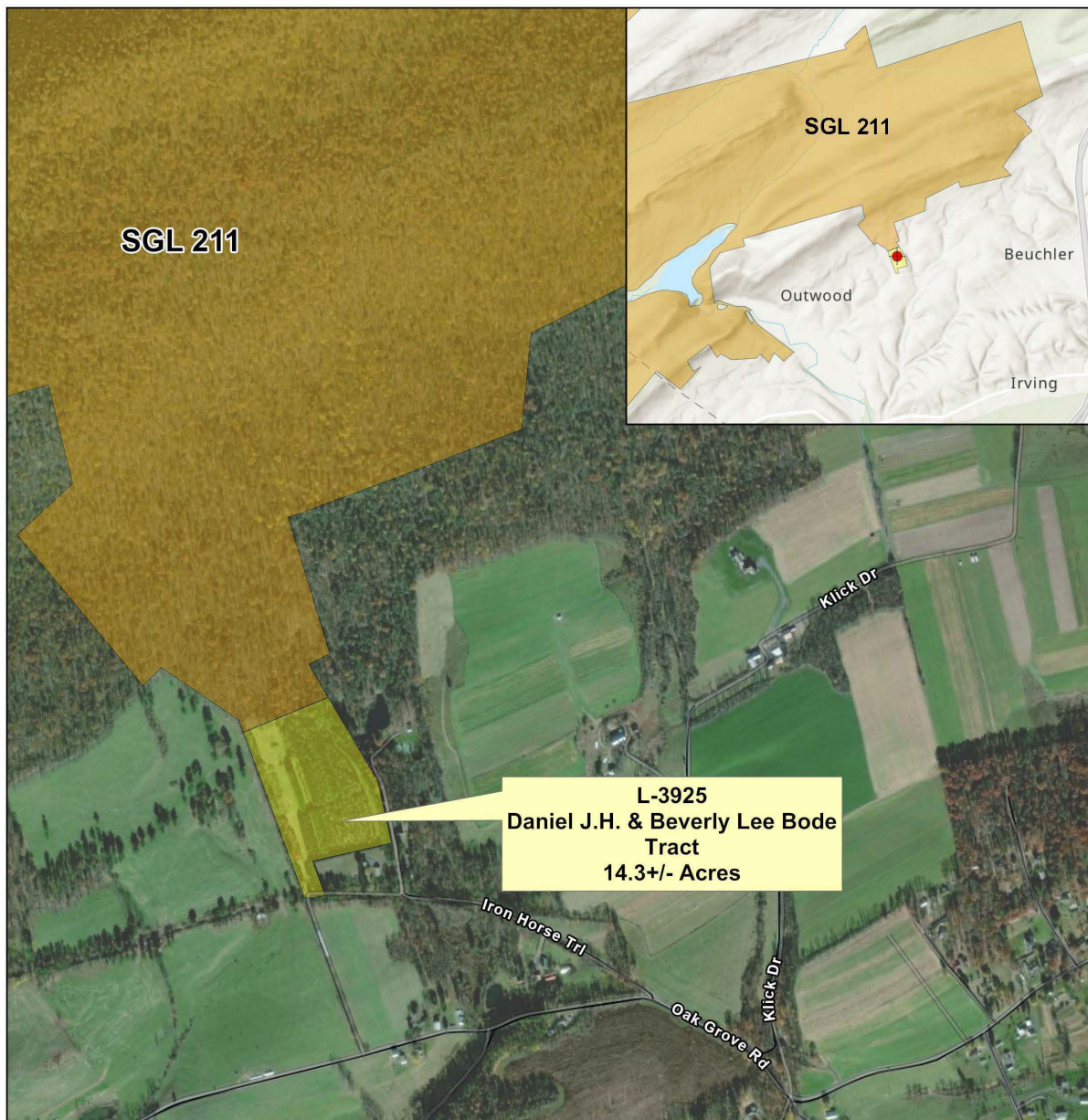
Monroe Township  
 Bedford County  
 Southcentral Region

Contract No. L-3925, State Game Land No. 211, Schuylkill County

Commentary:

Daniel J.H. and Beverly Lee Bode are offering 14.3+/- acres of land in Pine Grove Township, Schuylkill County, adjacent to State Game Land No. 211 (Exhibit RED 7). The option price is \$215,000 lump sum to be paid from the Commission's restricted account, representing funds from third party commitments for compensation of habitat and recreational losses which occurred on state game lands from previously approved projects. This account represents other cost-sharing funds under Section 705(a) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(a)) and therefore this acquisition may exceed \$400 per acre. This acquisition will provide road access to a portion of State Game Land No. 211 that currently does not have public access. The subsurface interests were severed. Access is from Iron Horse Trail.

Action:



## Exhibit RED 7

### State Game Land No. 211

L-3925  
Daniel J.H. & Beverly Lee Bode Tract  
14.3+/- Acres

Pine Grove Township  
Schuylkill County  
Southeast Region



— Public Roads

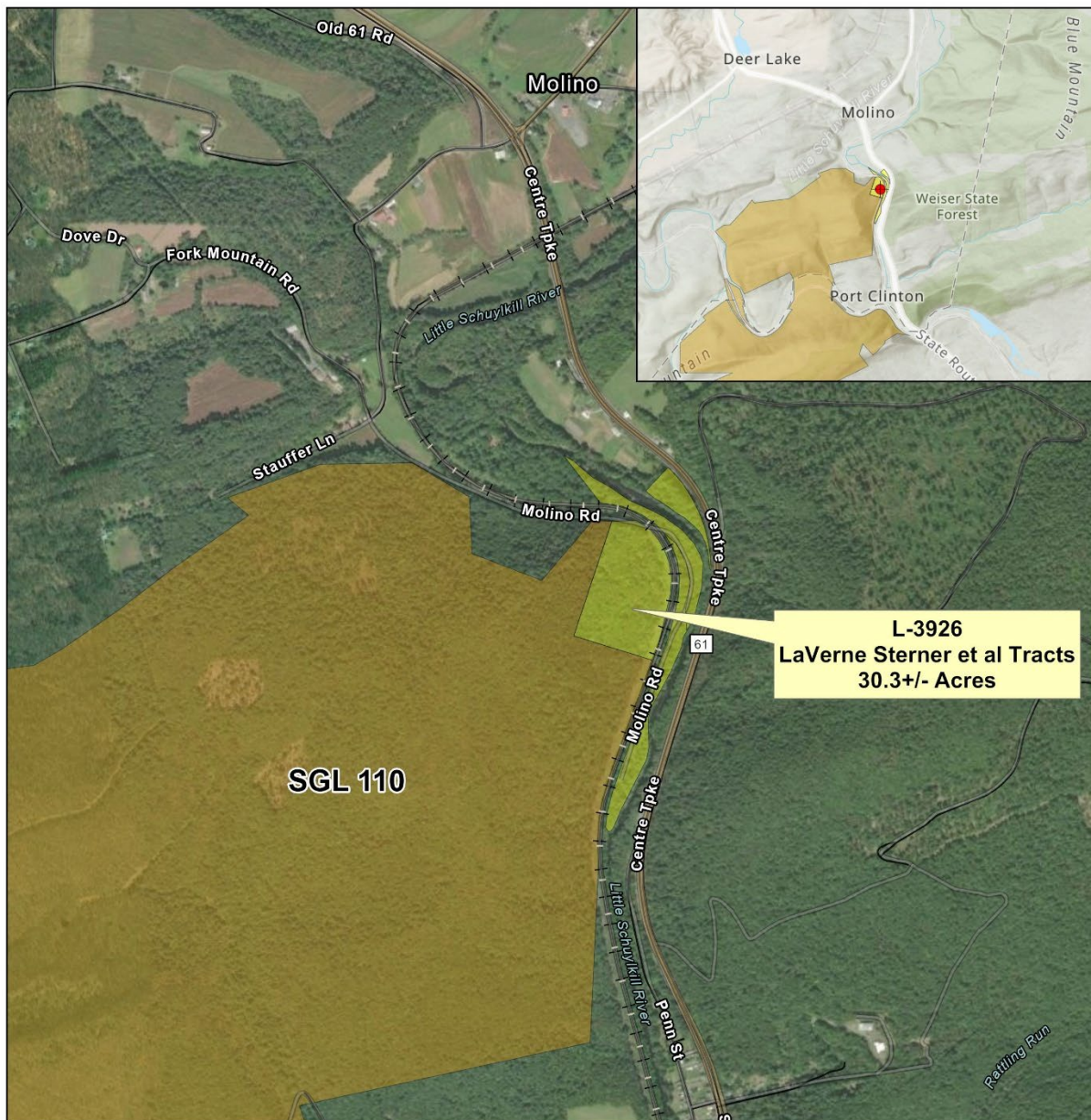
0 375 750 1,500 2,250 3,000  
US Feet



Contract No. L-3926, State Game Land No. 110, Schuylkill County

Commentary: LaVerne Sterner *et al.* are offering 30.3+/- acres of land in West Brunswick Township, Schuylkill County, adjacent to State Game Land No. 110 (Exhibit RED 8). The option price is \$76,500 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 705(b) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 705(b)). This acquisition will provide access to a portion of State Game Land No. 110 that currently does not have good access due to the topography. Access is from Molino Road with a railroad crossing to lower parcels.

Action:



— Public Roads  
 + Railroad Bed

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

## Exhibit RED 8

### State Game Land No. 110

L-3926  
 LaVerne Sterner et al Tracts  
 30.3+/- Acres

West Brunswick Township  
 Schuylkill County  
 Southeast Region

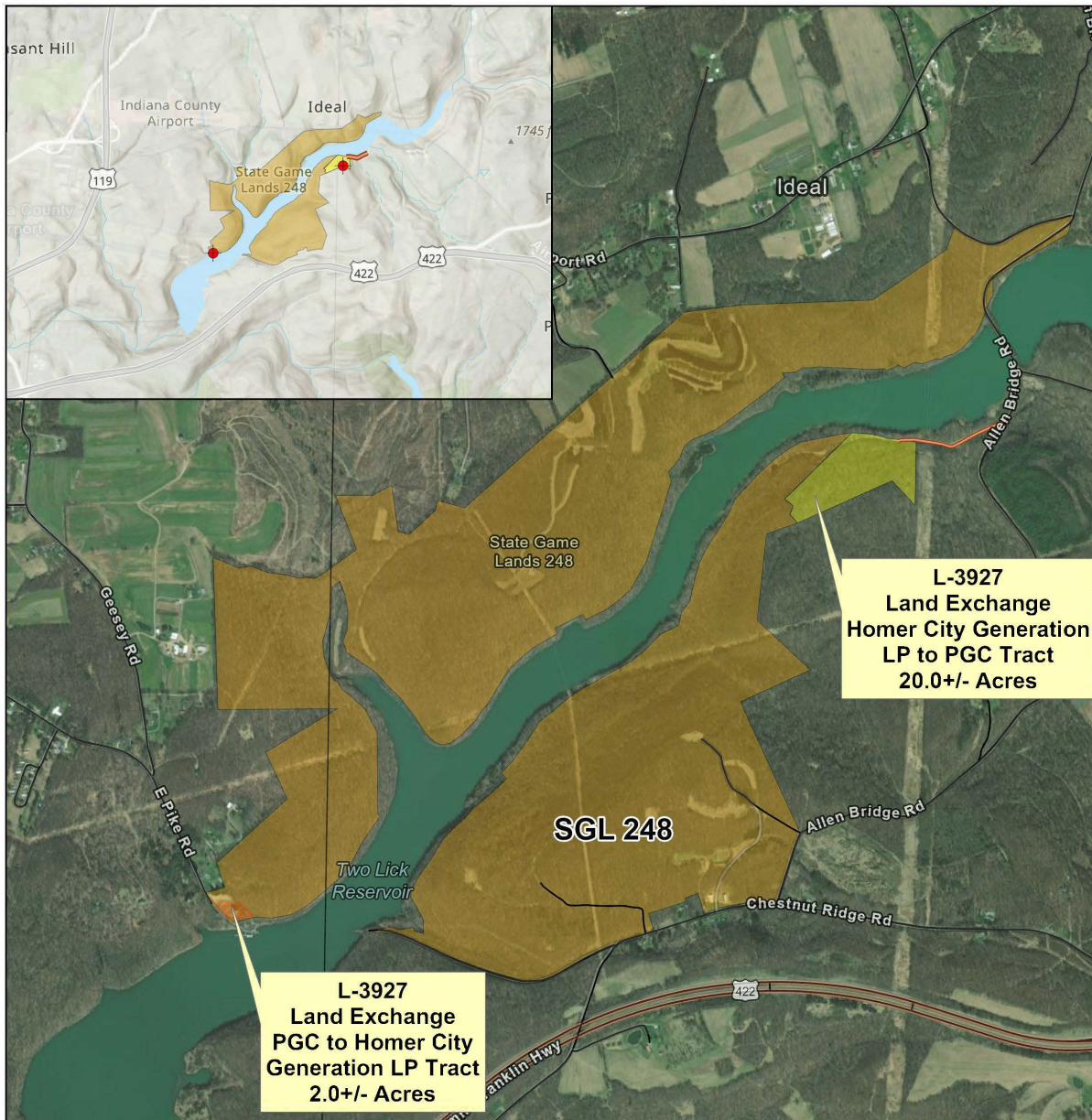


C. Exchange

Contract No. L-3927, State Game Land No. 248, Indiana County

Commentary: Homer City Generation LP is offering 20+/- acres of land in Cherryhill Township, Indiana County, adjoining State Game Land No. 248, to the Commission in exchange for 2+/- acres of State Game Land No. 248 in White Township, Indiana County (Exhibit RED 9). The Commission is retaining one of the two existing parking lots along East Pike Road for continued public access (Exhibit RED 9-A). Additionally, Homer City Generation LP will provide a right of way for public access off Allen Bridge Road. Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)).

Action:

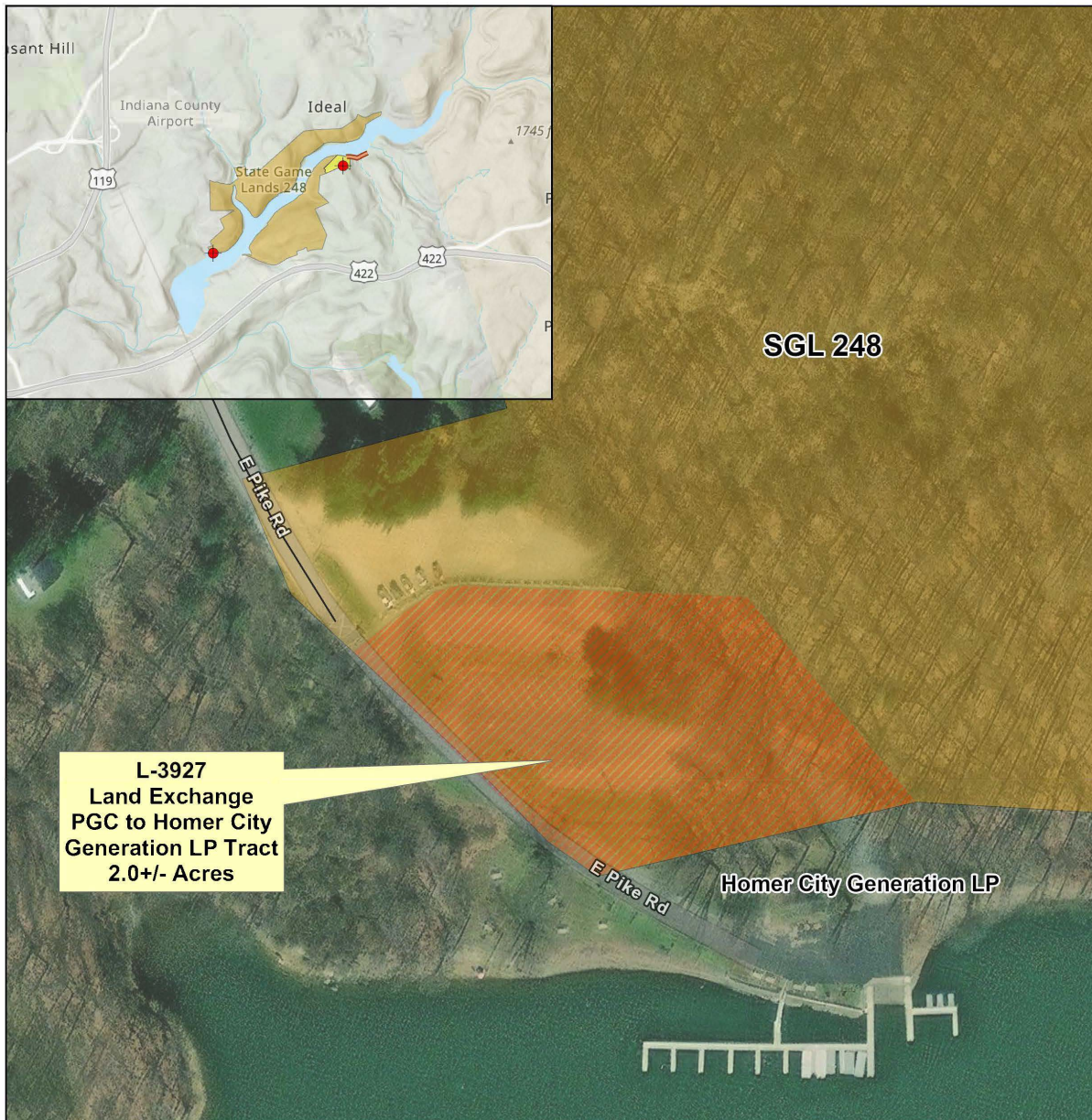


— Access Road  
— Public Roads

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

**Exhibit RED 9**  
**State Game Land No. 248**  
 L-3927  
 Land Exchange  
 PGC to Homer City Generation LP Tract  
 2.0+/- Acres  
 Homer City Generation LP to PGC Tract  
 20.0+/- Acres  
 White & Cherryhill Townships  
 Indiana County  
 Southwest Region





— Public Roads

0 50 100 200 300  
US Feet

## Exhibit RED 9-A State Game Land No. 248

L-3927  
Land Exchange  
PGC to Homer City Generation LP Tract  
2.0+/- Acres  
Homer City Generation LP to PGC Tract  
20.0+/- Acres  
White & Cherryhill Townships  
Indiana County  
Southwest Region

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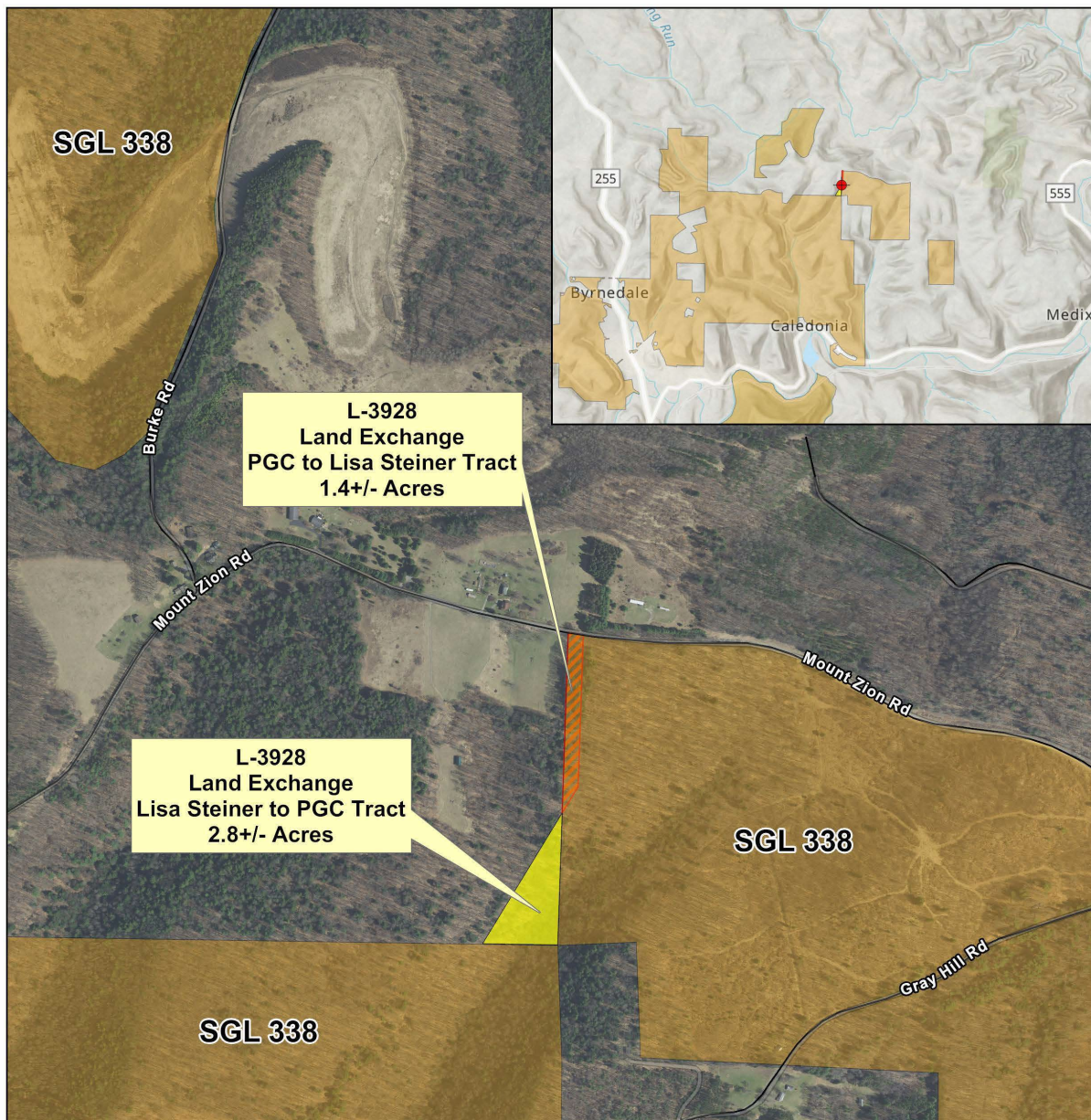
Contract No. L-3928, State Game Land No. 338, Elk County

Commentary: Lisa Steiner is offering 2.8+/- acres of land in Jay Township, Elk County, adjoining State Game Land No. 338, to the Commission in exchange for 1.4+/- acres of State Game Land No. 338 in Jay Township, Elk County (Exhibit RED 10). This exchange will provide linkage between separated game land parcels. Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)).

Action:

DRAFT





— Public Roads

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000  
US Feet

## Exhibit RED 10 State Game Land No. 338

L-3928  
Land Exchange  
PGC to Lisa Steiner Tract  
1.4+/- Acres  
Lisa Steiner to PGC Tract  
2.8+/- Acres  
Jay Township  
Elk County  
Northcentral Region

Contract No. L-3929, State Game Land No. 116, Pike County

Commentary: V.F.W. Eckert Haupt Post 5635 is offering .06+/- acres of land in Lackawaxen Township, Pike County, adjoining State Game Land No. 116, to the Commission in exchange for .06+/- acres of State Game Land No. 116 in Lackawaxen Township, Pike County (Exhibit RED 11). This exchange will allow the Commission to have access along Route 590. Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)).

Action:

DRAFT





0 25 50 100 150 200  
US Feet

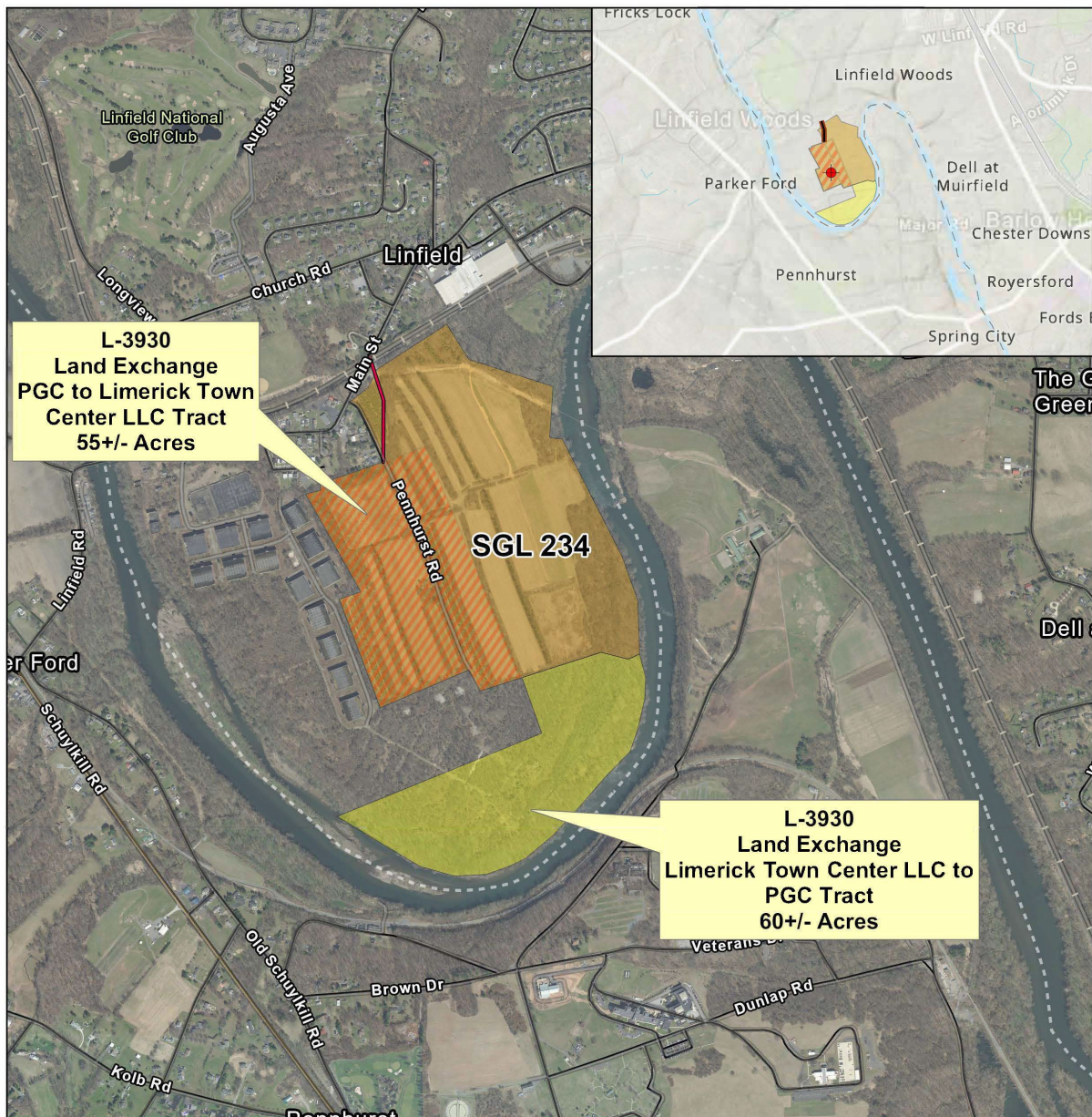
**Exhibit RED 11**  
**State Game Land No. 116**  
**L-3929**  
 Land Exchange  
 PGC to V.F.W. Eckert Haupt Post 5635  
 Tract 0.06+/- Acres  
 V.F.W. Eckert Haupt Post 5635 to PGC  
 Tract 0.06+/- Acres  
 Lackawaxen Township  
 Pike County  
 Northeast Region



Contract No. L-3930, State Game Land No. 234, Montgomery County

Commentary: Limerick Town Center LLC is offering 60+/- acres of land in Limerick Township, Montgomery County, adjoining State Game Land No. 234 (Exhibit RED 12) in addition to 377.2 acres of land in Bern Township, Berks County (Exhibit RED 13) and 176.8 acres of land in Edgemont Township, Delaware County (Exhibit RED 14), to the Commission in exchange for 55+/- acres of SGL 234 in Limerick Township, Montgomery County (Exhibit RED 12) as well as a 200 foot right of way across the remaining State Game Land No. 234. The land in Berks County will provide old field management opportunities while the land in Delaware County will be the first State game land in this county. Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)).

Action:

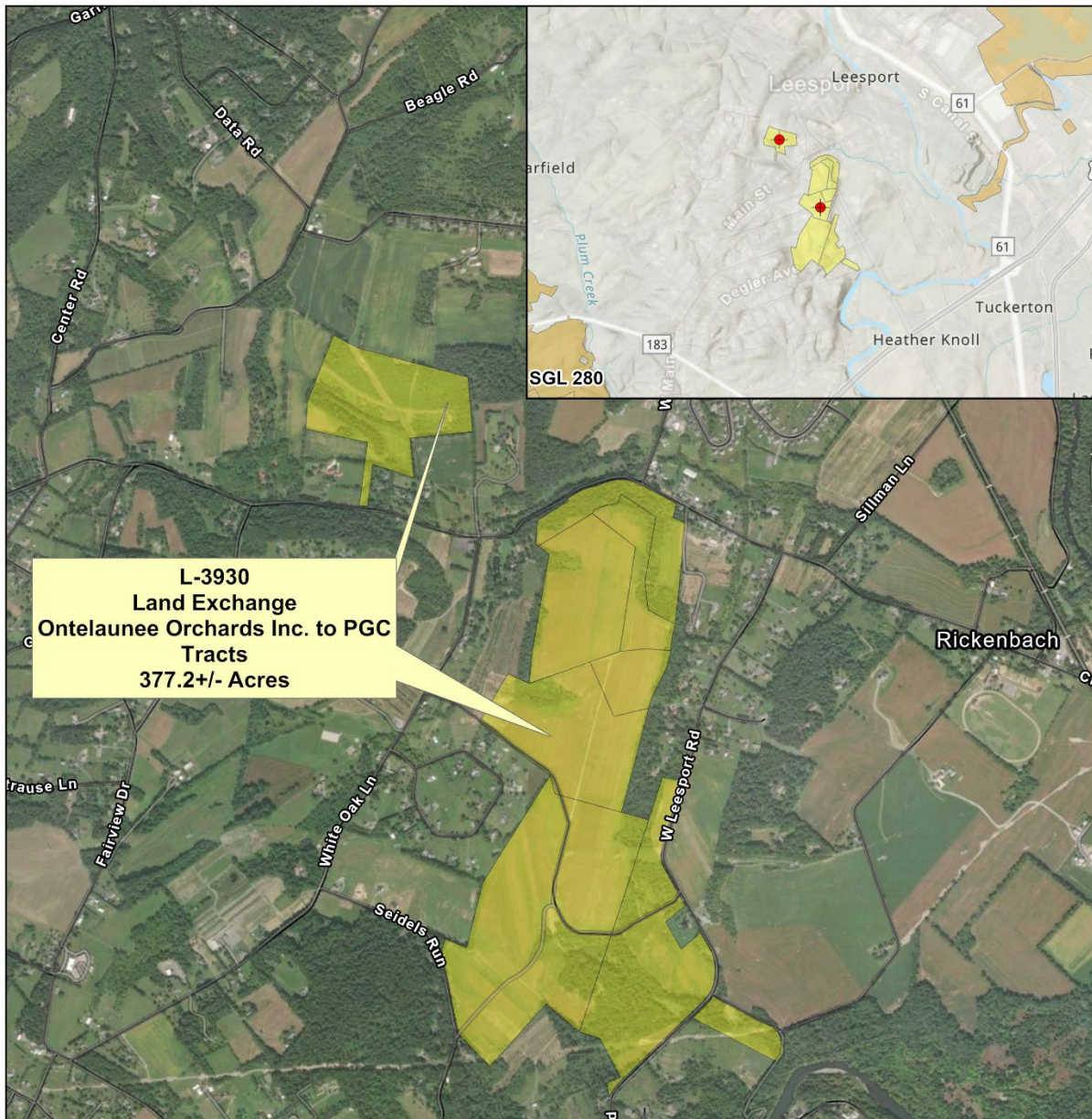


— Public Roads  
— Right-of-Way

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

**Exhibit RED 12**  
**State Game Land No. 234**  
L-3930  
Land Exchange  
Limerick Town Center LLC to PGC  
Tract 60+/- Acres and  
PGC to Limerick Town Center LLC Tract  
55+/- Acres  
Limerick Township  
Montgomery County  
Southeast Region





**L-3930**  
**Land Exchange**  
**Ontelaunee Orchards Inc. to PGC**  
**Tracts**  
**377.2+/- Acres**

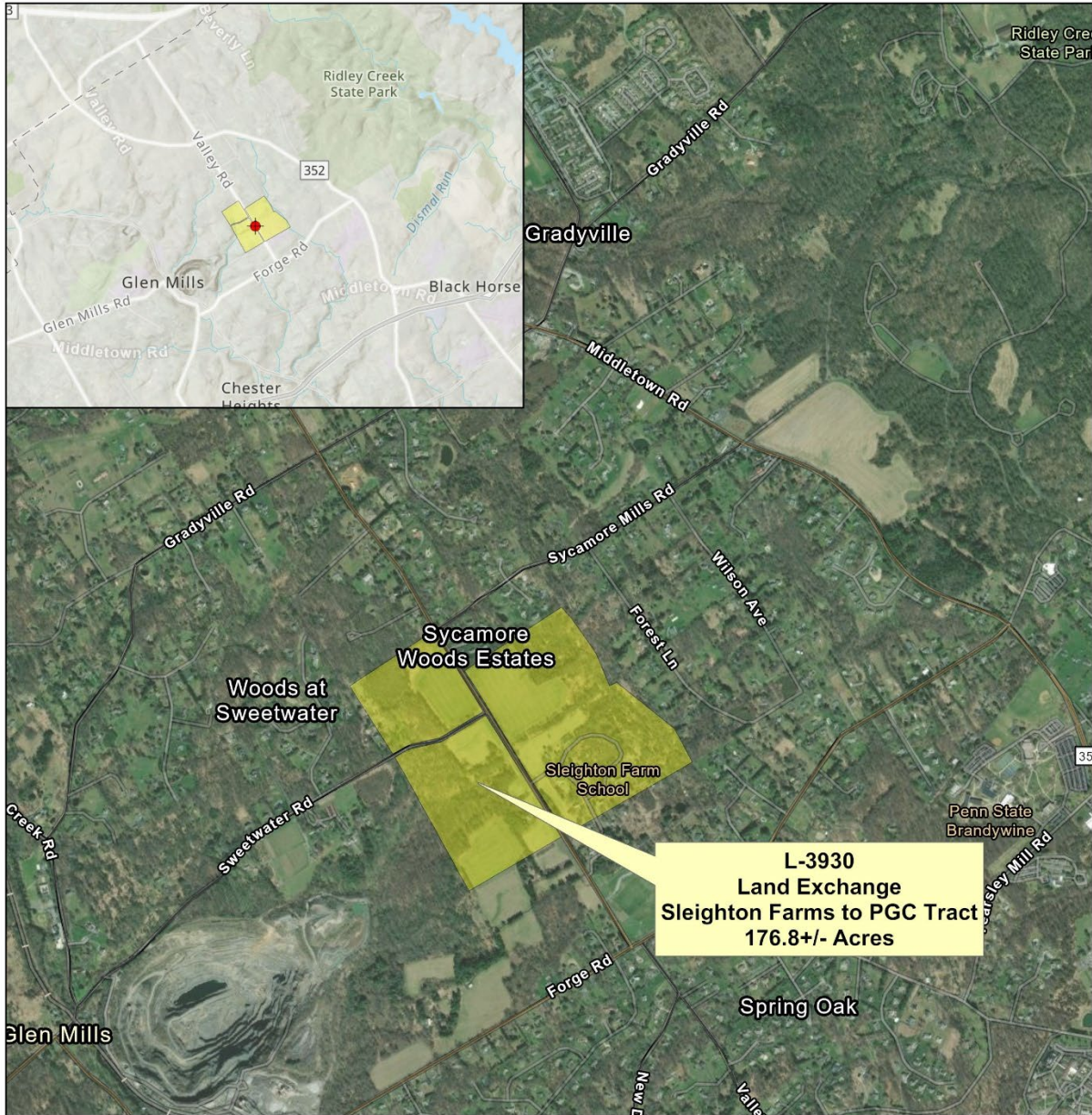


— Public Roads

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

**Exhibit RED 13**  
**State Game Land No. 341**  
**L-3930**  
**Land Exchange**  
**Ontelaunee Orchards Inc. to PGC Tracts**  
**377.2+/- Acres**  
 Bern Township  
 Berks County  
 Southeast Region





— Public Roads

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

## Exhibit RED 14

### State Game Land No. 342

**L-3930**  
**Land Exchange**  
 Sleighton Farms to PGC Tract  
 176.8+/- Acres

Edgmont Township  
 Delaware County  
 Southeast Region

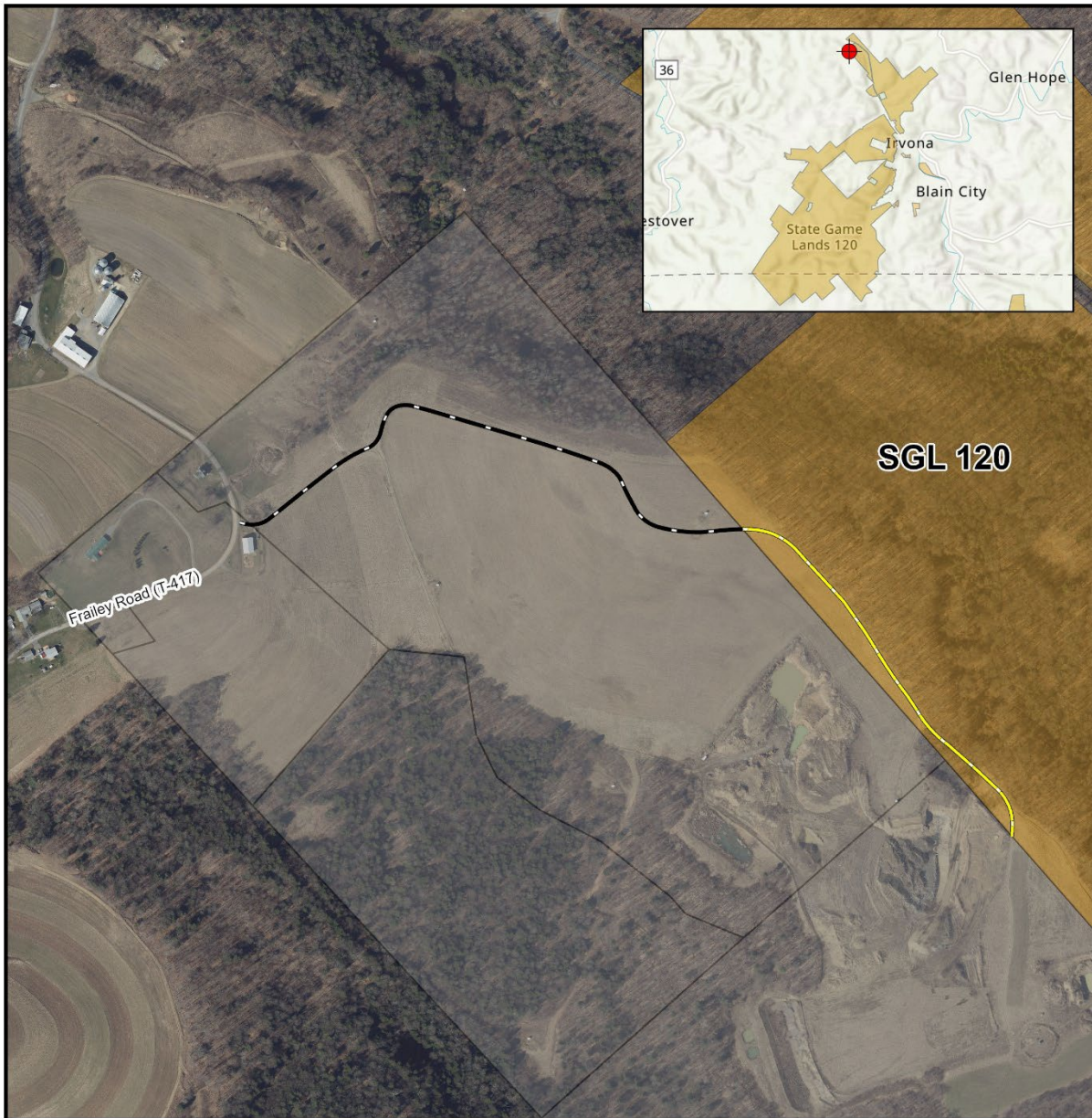
Contract No. L-3931, State Game Land No. 120, Clearfield County

Commentary:

Constance A. and Timothy D. Maida are offering a 25-foot-wide right-of-way (ROW) for 2,212+/- feet of existing access road into State Game Land No. 120 in exchange for a 25-foot-wide ROW for 1,587+/- feet of existing access road through State Game Land No. 120 connecting separate properties owned by the Maidas in Jordan Township, Clearfield County (Exhibit RED 15). The Commission's ROW will provide both administrative and lawful user access from Frailey Road (T-417) to 147+/- landlocked acres of State Game Land No. 120 west of Irvona Road (S.R. 3005). Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)).

Action:





- Existing Access Road & 25' ROW to Maida (1,587+/- Feet; 0.91+/- Acre)
- Existing Access Road & 25' ROW to PGC (2,212+/- Feet; 1.27+/- Acre)
- Constance A. & Timothy D. Maida Properties

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 US Feet

## Exhibit RED 16

### State Game Land No. 120

**L-3931  
ROW-ROW Exchange**

Jordan Township  
Clearfield County  
Southwest Region

## OIL/GAS & MINERALS

### D. Informational Item – Notational Vote

#### Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement

#### Tract 095A-25, State Game Land No. 95, Butler County

Commentary:

On November 24, 2025, the Board of Commissioners approved, by notational vote, the request by Laurel Mountain Energy, LLC (hereinafter referred to as LME) of Pittsburgh, PA for an additional 107+/- net acres to be included in the Non-Surface Use Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement that was approved by the Board of Commissioners at their meeting on April 12, 2025. The proposed tract, now containing approximately 753+/- net oil/gas acres, is located in Washington and Parker Townships, Butler County (Exhibit OGM 1).

LME will access the 753-net acre reserves from its current and planned drilling operations on adjacent areas off SGL 95 by horizontal drilling with no additional surface use or disturbance to the Game Lands. The Commission negotiated the proposed terms of the agreement with LME to prudently develop its oil/gas reserve and simultaneously protect the wildlife resources and recreational use of State Game Land No. 095.

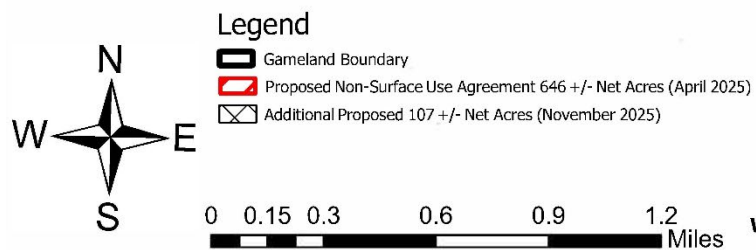
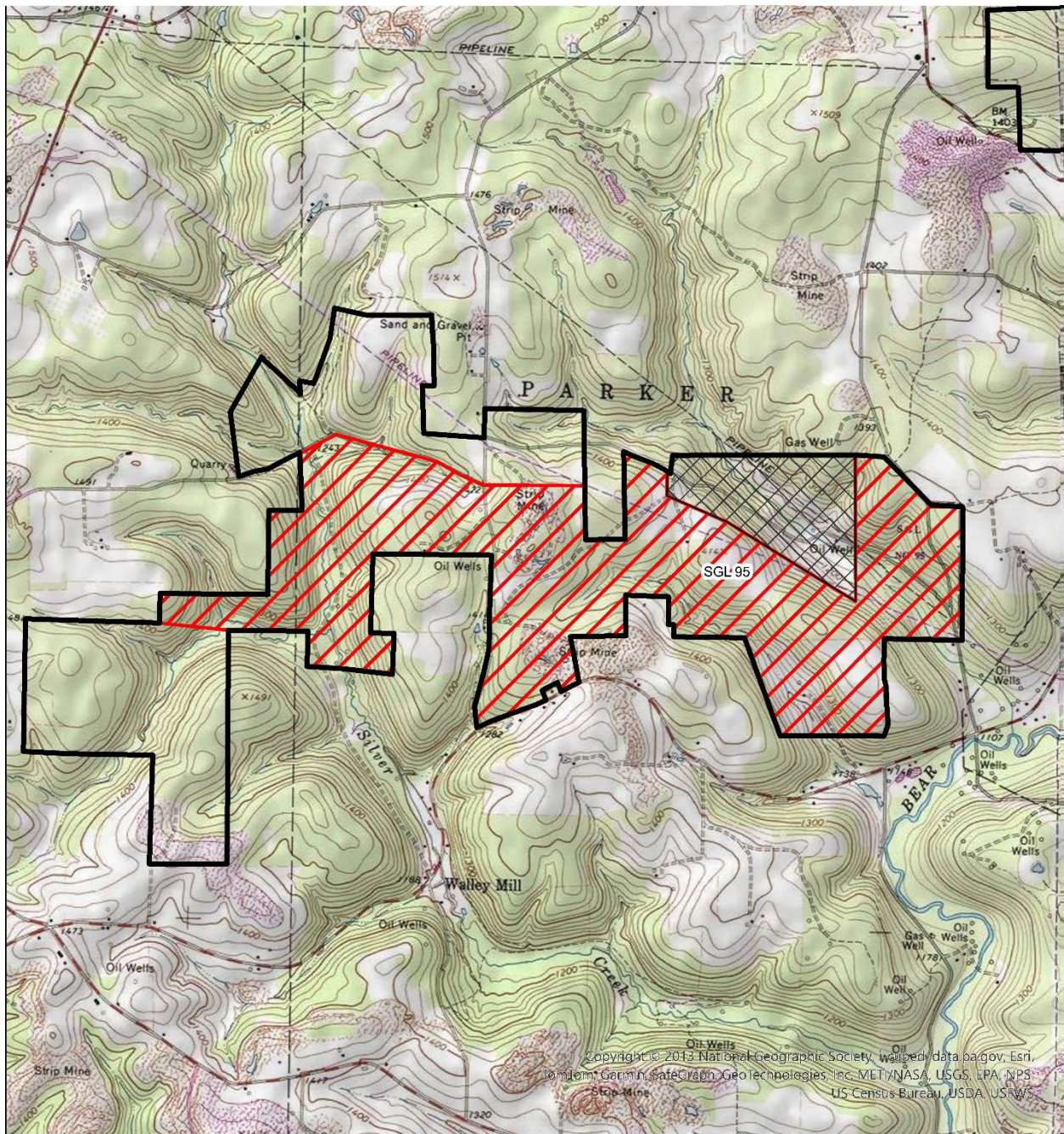
The terms of the Agreement include a five (5) year paid up non-surface use oil and gas agreement, a \$1,250 per net oil and gas acre bonus payment, and a 14% royalty for the first 36 months, which escalates to a 15% royalty thereafter for all oil, gas, and other liquids or condensates produced and sold from the proposed tract.

The total bonus payment of \$941,250 will be made in five (5) annual installments of \$188,250. The first bonus payment of \$188,250 will be due within 60 days of execution of the agreement. The remainder of bonus payments will be due annually on the anniversary date(s) of the agreement. All bonus, rental, and future royalty payments will be deposited into the Game Fund.

Oil and gas development will be regulated by the Commonwealth's oil and gas regulations and the Commission's non-surface use oil and gas cooperative agreement.

Action: This is an informational item only; therefore, no action is required.





**EXHIBIT OGM 1**  
**State Game Land No. 095**  
**Non-Surface Use**  
**Oil and Gas Cooperative Agreement**  
**Laurel Mountain Energy**  
**Lease Tract 095A-25**  
**753 +/- Net Acres**

**Washington and Parker Townships, Butler County**  
**Northwest Region**



Other New Business

Next Commission Meeting – April 10-11, 2026.

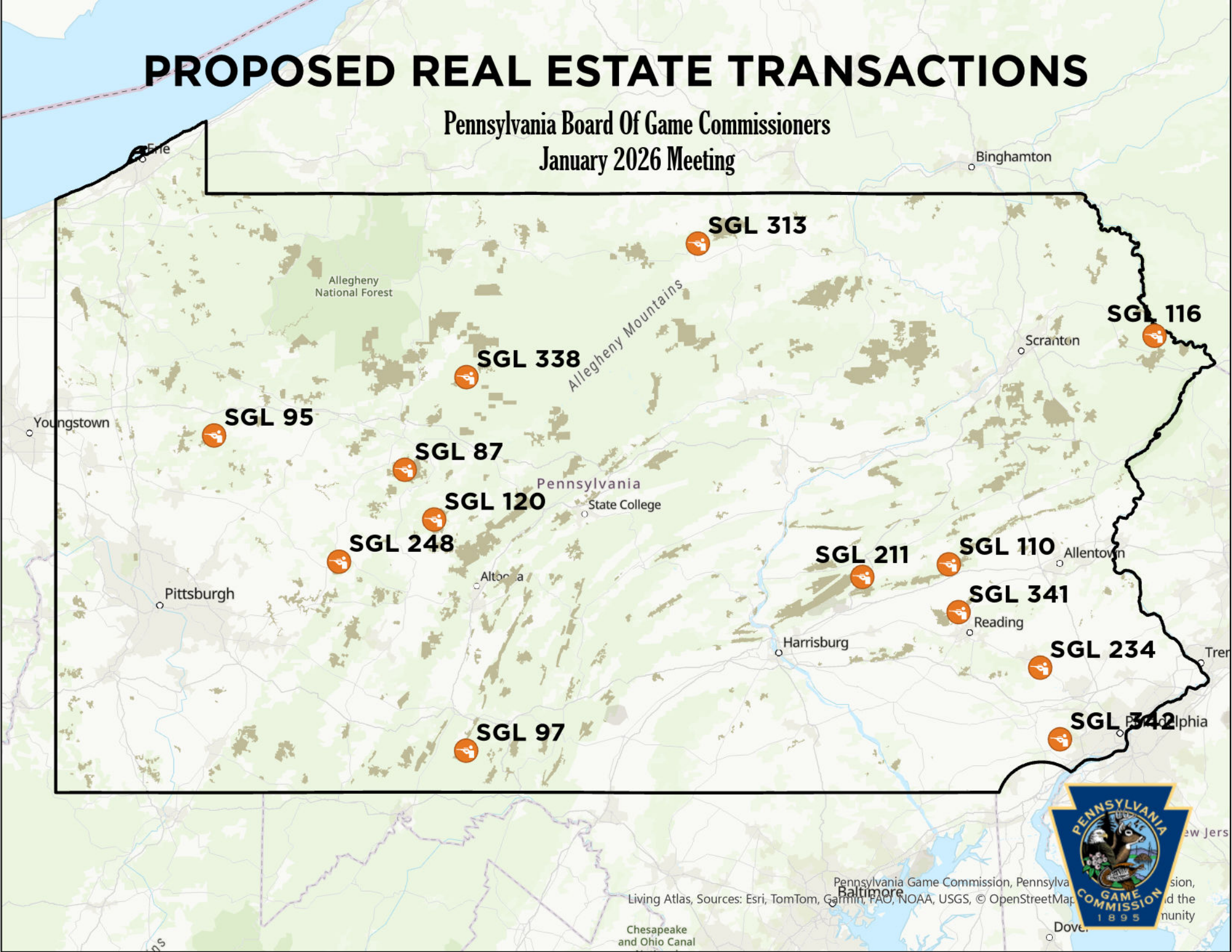
Adjournment

DRAFT

DRAFT

# PROPOSED REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Pennsylvania Board Of Game Commissioners  
January 2026 Meeting



Pennsylvania Game Commission, Pennsylvania  
Living Atlas, Sources: Esri, TomTom, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, © OpenStreetMap

Chesapeake  
and Ohio Canal

Dove