

**COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
PENNSYLVANIA GAME COMMISSION**



**AGENDA  
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  
April 11, 2026**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen P. Smith".

Stephen P. Smith  
Executive Director

**Table of Contents**

Call to Order ..... 1

Pledge of Allegiance..... 1

Roll Call of Commissioners..... 1

Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on January 24, 2026 ..... 1

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.4 ..... 2

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 137.35 ..... 10

C. Create 58 Pa. Code §§ 147.681a-147.687a..... 13

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.62 ..... 17

E. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 141.63 and 141.69..... 19

**BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code §§ 143.203 and 143.207..... 22

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

**ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.4 ..... 24

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.5 ..... 28

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 135.41 ..... 30

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 147.556 ..... 32

E. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.1 ..... 34

**BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

**REAL ESTATE**

A. Acquisition

    Contract No. L-3932, State Game Land No. 332, Indiana County..... 38

    Contract No. L-3933, State Game Land No. 110, Schuylkill County ..... 40

B. Exchange

    Contract No. L-3934, State Game Land No. 321, Clinton County..... 42

**OIL/GAS & MINERALS**

C. Bituminous Coal Surface Mining Agreement – AMENDMENT

    Tract 198A-24, State Game Land No. 198, Cresson Township, Cambria County and Juniata Township, Blair County..... 44

D. Land Exchange and Water Use Agreement  
L3935, State Game Land No. 111, Lower Turkeyfoot Township, Somerset County .....46

Other New Business.....48

Adjournment .....48

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
Pennsylvania Game Commission

Agenda

The Commission Meeting of the Pennsylvania Game Commission will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2026 at 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call of Commissioners

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

Approval of minutes of Commission meeting held January 24, 2026.

## **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT**

### **ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

**CHAPTER 139. SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS**

**§ 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**

**SMALL GAME**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Field Possession Limit After Second Day</b>
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species) Eligible Junior Hunters, with or without the required junior license, and Mentored Permit Holders 16 years of age and under	Sept. 12	Sept. 27	6	18
<i>Squirrel</i> – (Combined species)	Sept. 12 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	6	18
<i>Ruffed Grouse</i>	Oct. 17	Dec. 24	2	6
<i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i> Eligible Junior Hunters, with or without the required junior license, and Mentored Permit Holders 16 years of age and under	Oct. 3	Oct. 18	4	12
<i>Rabbit, Cottontail</i>	Oct. 17 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	4	12
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant</i> Central Susquehanna and Franklin County Wild Pheasant Recovery Areas <i>Male only</i>	As authorized by the Executive Order			
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or Female</i> Junior License Holders and Mentored Permit Holders <sup>1</sup>	Oct. 10	Oct. 18	2	6
<i>Ring-necked Pheasant – Male or Female</i>	Oct. 24 and Dec. 26	Dec. 24 Feb. 28, 2027	2	6
<i>Bobwhite Quail</i> – 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	Dec. 24	Unlimited	
	Dec. 26	Mar. 31, 2027		
<i>Woodchuck (Groundhog)</i>	July 1	Dec. 24	Unlimited	
	Dec. 26	June 30, 2027		
<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.			

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. §§ 703-712) as published in the *Federal Register* or on the United States Fish and Wildlife Service website, or both, 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, 2G, 3A, 4A, 4B, and 4D	Oct. 31	Nov. 15		
WMUs 1B, 3D, 4C, and 4E	Oct. 31	Nov. 8		
WMUs 2A, 2F, 3B, and 3C	Oct. 31 and Nov. 25	Nov. 15 Nov. 27		
WMU 2B, 2C, 2D, and 2E	Oct. 31 and Nov. 25	Nov. 20 Nov. 27		
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 16 years of age and under	Apr. 24, 2027	Apr. 25, 2027	1	1
<i>Turkey, Spring</i> <sup>2</sup> Bearded Bird only	May 1, 2027 and May 17, 2027	May 16, 2027 May 31, 2027	1	1
			May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon	
			May be hunted 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset	

**WHITE-TAILED DEER**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<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. 27  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. 28	Dec. 13	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 (DMAP)	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**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> WMUs 2B, 5C and 5D	Sept. 19	Nov. 27	1
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> WMUs 3D and 5B	Oct. 3	Nov. 20	1
<b><i>Bear, Archery</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> WMUs 1A, 1B, 2A, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 5A	Oct. 17	Oct. 25	1
<b><i>Bear, Muzzleloader</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> (Statewide)	Oct. 22	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>6</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 (Statewide)	Oct. 22	Oct. 25	1
<b><i>Bear, Regular Firearms</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> (Statewide)	Nov. 21	Nov. 24	1
<b><i>Bear, Extended firearms</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> WMUs 2B, 5B, 5C, and 5D	Nov. 28	Dec. 13	1
<b><i>Bear, Extended firearms</i></b> <sup>5,6</sup> WMUs 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4C, 4E and 5A	Nov. 28	Dec. 6	1

**ELK**

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<b><i>Elk, Special Conservation Tag</i></b> <sup>7</sup> <b><i>and Special-License Tag</i></b> <sup>7</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	July 1	Nov. 8	1
<b><i>Elk, Archery</i></b> <sup>7</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Sept. 12	Sept. 27	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular firearms – First</i></b> <sup>7</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Oct. 3	Oct. 11	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular firearms - Second</i></b> <sup>7</sup> <b><i>(Antlered and Antlerless)</i></b>	Oct. 31	Nov. 8	1
<b><i>Elk, Regular firearms - Third</i></b> <sup>7</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>
<i>Mink and Muskrat</i>	Nov. 21	Jan. 10, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Beaver</i>	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
<i>Coyote, Fox, Opossum, Raccoon, Striped Skunk and Weasel</i>	Oct. 24	Feb. 21, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Coyote and Fox</i> Use of cable restraint devices authorized with required certification	Dec. 26	Feb. 21, 2027		Unlimited
<i>Bobcat, with required bobcat permit</i> 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
<i>Fisher, with required fisher permit</i> WMUs 1B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2G, 3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D and 4E	Dec. 19	Jan. 10, 2027		1
<i>River Otter, with required otter permit</i> 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>
<i>Coyote – (Outside of any big game season)</i>			May be taken with a hunting license or a furtaker’s license.	Unlimited
<i>Coyote – (During any big game season)</i>			May be taken while lawfully hunting big game or with a furtaker’s license.	Unlimited
<i>Opossum, Striped Skunk, Weasel</i>	July 1	June 30, 2027		Unlimited
				May be hunted any hour, day or night, from July 1 – Nov. 27 and Dec. 14- June 30, 2027. May only be hunted from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise from Nov. 28–Dec. 13

<b>Species</b>	<b>First Day</b>	<b>Last Day</b>	<b>Daily Limit</b>	<b>Season Limit</b>
<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. 27 and Dec. 14 – Feb. 21, 2027. May only be hunted from 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise from Nov. 28–Dec. 13
<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. 14 and Dec. 26	Nov. 27 and Dec. 24 and 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> Includes mentored youth who are 7 years of age and older and mentored adults with a valid mentored hunter permit issued under Chapter 147, Subchapter X.

<sup>7</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: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026, meeting proposed 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 137. WILDLIFE

§ 137.35. Chronic Wasting Disease restrictions.

(a) {Reserved}

(b) {Reserved}

(b.1) *General.*

(1) All cervids harvested, taken or killed within any Disease Management 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 Area established within this Commonwealth.

(3) {Reserved}

(4) It is unlawful to directly or indirectly feed wild, free-ranging cervids within any part or portion of a Disease Management Area 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) The Commission will not issue any new permit to possess or transport live cervids within any Disease Management Area established within this Commonwealth.

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

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

(e) *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.

*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) *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.

C. Create 58 Pa. Code §§ 147.681a-147.685a.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed to create §§ 147.681a-147.685a (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 amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL

CERTIFIED HUNTER PERMIT

§ 147.681a. Purpose.

The purpose of §§ 147.682a--147.685a 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 4 out of 5 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.

(d) *Background check.* Applicants must pass an annual background check approved by the Director as set forth in § 147.683a (relating to certified hunter 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) A misdemeanor conviction within the past ten (10) years.
- (2) A felony conviction.
- (3) A conviction resulting in the revocation of the applicant's hunting and trapping privileges within the past 10 years.

(4) A violation of 34 Pa.C.S. (relating to Game and Wildlife Code) within the past 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 this 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 for 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. 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 Commission-issued customer identification 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 or functionality, or both, is restored.

§ 147.685a. Violations.

Violations of §§ 147.681a-147.685a (relating to certified hunter permit) will be prosecuted under section 2908 of the act (relating to violations). Furthermore, the Director may deny, revoke or suspend a permit for violations of requirements, standards, or limitations of §§ 147.681a-147.685a upon written notice to the permittee.

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.62

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

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.

(3) Set body-gripping traps larger than 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: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed to amend §§ 141.63 and § 141.69 (relating to definitions; and 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

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 3/4 inches by 3 1/2 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) *Exceptions.*

(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**

### **ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

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

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 143. HUNTING AND FURTKER 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. Each current license year elk license application will also include one random number entry for each bonus point held by the applicant. Each successfully drawn application will automatically reset to zero the applicant's bonus point count.

(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 during any hunting license year.

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

\* \* \* \* \*

## **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE PROTECTION**

### **ADOPTED RULE MAKING**

A. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.4.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed to amend § 141.4, 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 2026-2027 hunting/trapping license year. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

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 (relating to hunting hours).

\* \* \* \* \*

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 – 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

B. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 139.5.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed to amend § 139.5 (relating to regulated hunting grounds) to remove the Sunday hunting prohibition on commercial regulated hunting grounds. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

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.

(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.

C. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 135.41.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed 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. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex "A"

CHAPTER 135. LANDS AND BUILDINGS

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:

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) Ride a nonmotorized vehicle, conveyance or animal from 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 October 1 through January 31, inclusive, and from April 1 through May 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

D. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 147.556.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026 meeting, proposed 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 is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 147. SPECIAL PERMITS

Subchapter R. DEER CONTROL; AGRICULTURE

§ 147.556. Lawful devices and methods.

(a) *Devices.* 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).

(1) {Reserved}.

(2) {Reserved}.

(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.

E. Amend 58 Pa. Code § 141.1.

Commentary: To effectively manage the wildlife resources of this Commonwealth, the Commission, at its January 24, 2026, meeting proposed to amend § 141.1 (relating to special regulations areas) to enhance the effectiveness in taking white-tailed deer through the use of bait within the southeast area special regulation counties, while at the same time simplifying the regulations for hunters. This amendment is now before the Commission for final adoption.

Action:

Annex “A”

CHAPTER 141. HUNTING AND TRAPPING

Subchapter A. GENERAL

§ 141.1. Special regulation 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, 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, Federal, township or municipal property within the southeast special regulations area.

(B) {Reserved}

(C) Approved bait may be administered on the ground at each bait site 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) 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) Bait accumulation at any one bait site may not exceed 5 gallons total volume at any given time.

(F) 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) 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) 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.

\* \* \* \* \*

**PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK**

## **BUREAU OF WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT**

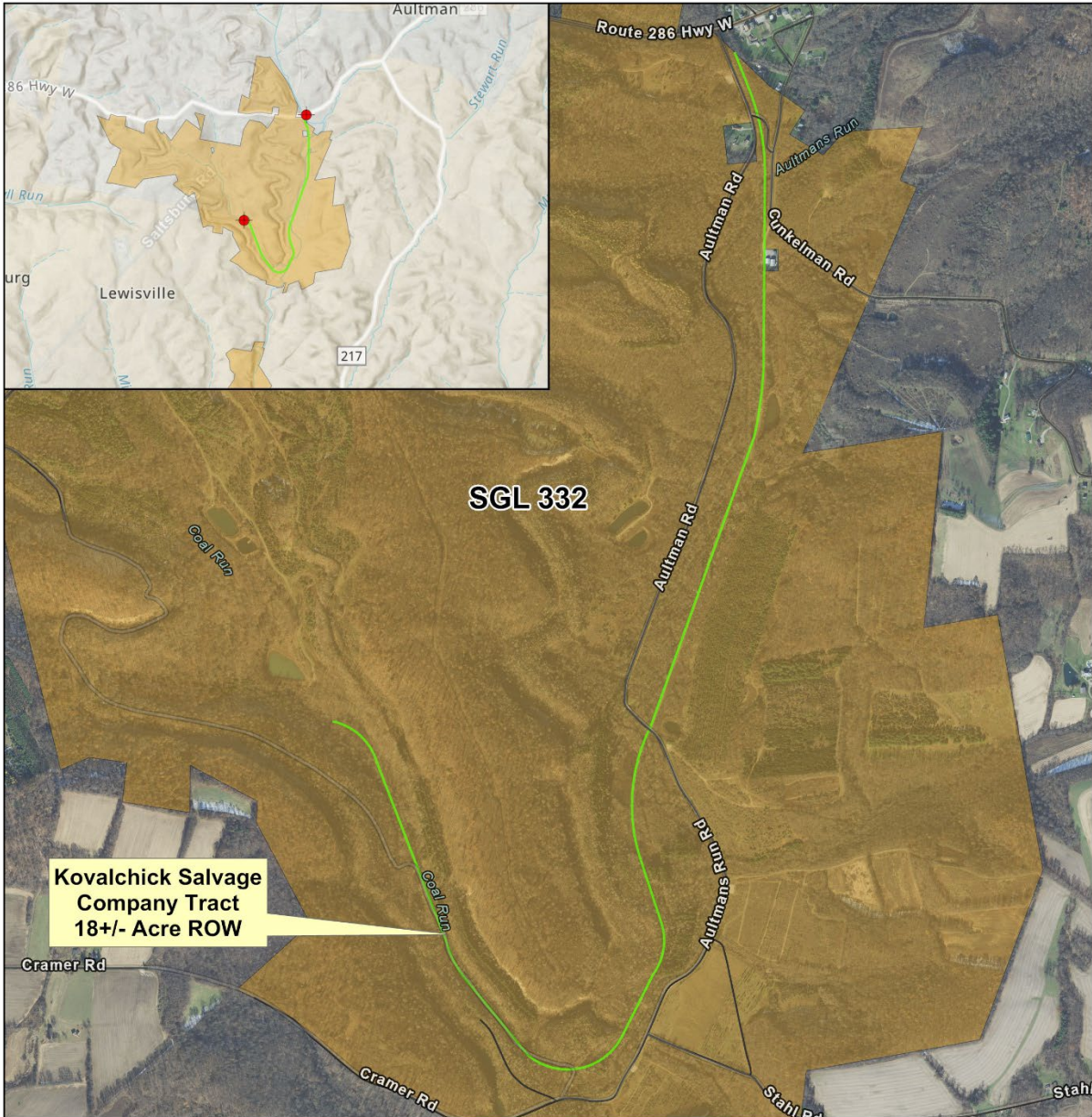
### **REAL ESTATE**

#### **A. Acquisition**

Contract No. L-3932, State Game Land No. 332, Indiana County

Commentary: Kovalchick Salvage Company is offering an 18+/- acre right-of-way on State Game Land No. 332 in Young and Blacklick Townships, Indiana County (Exhibit RED 1). The option price is \$5,000 lump sum to be paid from the Game Fund as authorized under Section 703 of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 703). This right-of-way will provide administrative and lawful user access to the existing game lands.

Action:

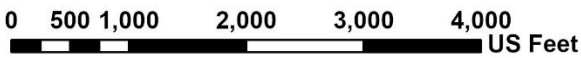


**Kovalchick Salvage  
Company Tract  
18+/- Acre ROW**

**SGL 332**



— Public Roads



**Exhibit RED 1**

**State Game Land No. 332**

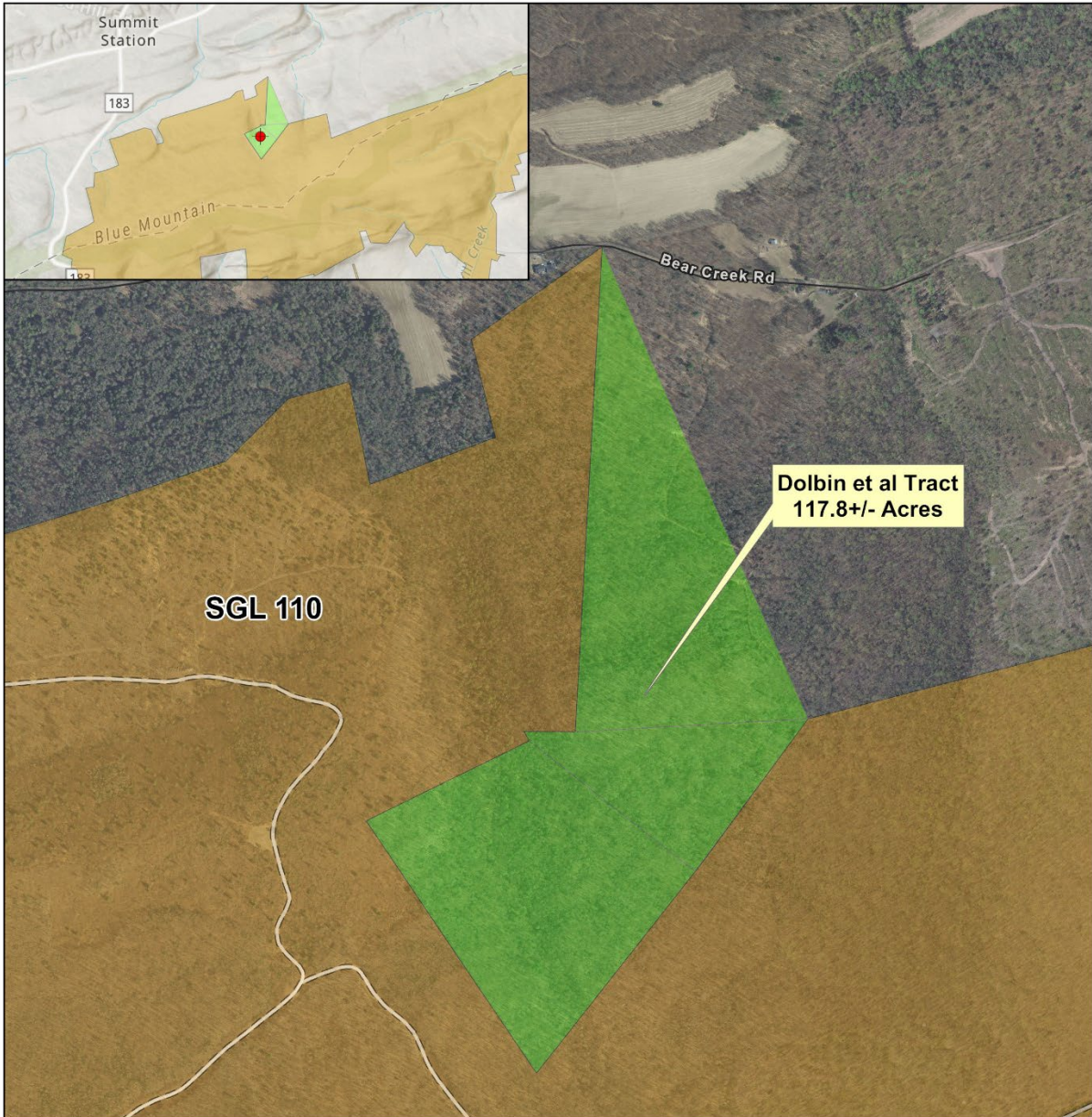
**L-3932  
Kovalchick Salvage Company  
Tract 18+/- Acre ROW**

**Young & Blacklick Townships  
Indiana County  
Southwest Region**

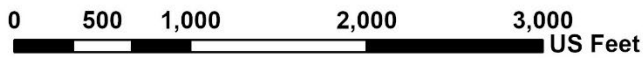
Contract No. L-3933, State Game Land No. 110, Schuylkill County

Commentary: Cyrus Palmer Dolbin, *et al.*, are offering 117.8+/- acres of land in Wayne Township, Schuylkill County, an indenture to State Game Land No. 110 (Exhibit RED 2). The option price is \$155,000 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 parcel is located along the Kittatinny Ridge, an important bird area, and is also part of the Blue Mountain Natural Heritage Area. Access is through existing State Game Land No. 110.

Action:



— Public Roads  
 - - - Roads on Game Lands



**Exhibit RED 2**

**State Game Land No. 110**

L-3933  
 Dolbin et al Tract  
 117.8+/- Acres

Wayne Township  
 Schuylkill County  
 Southeast Region

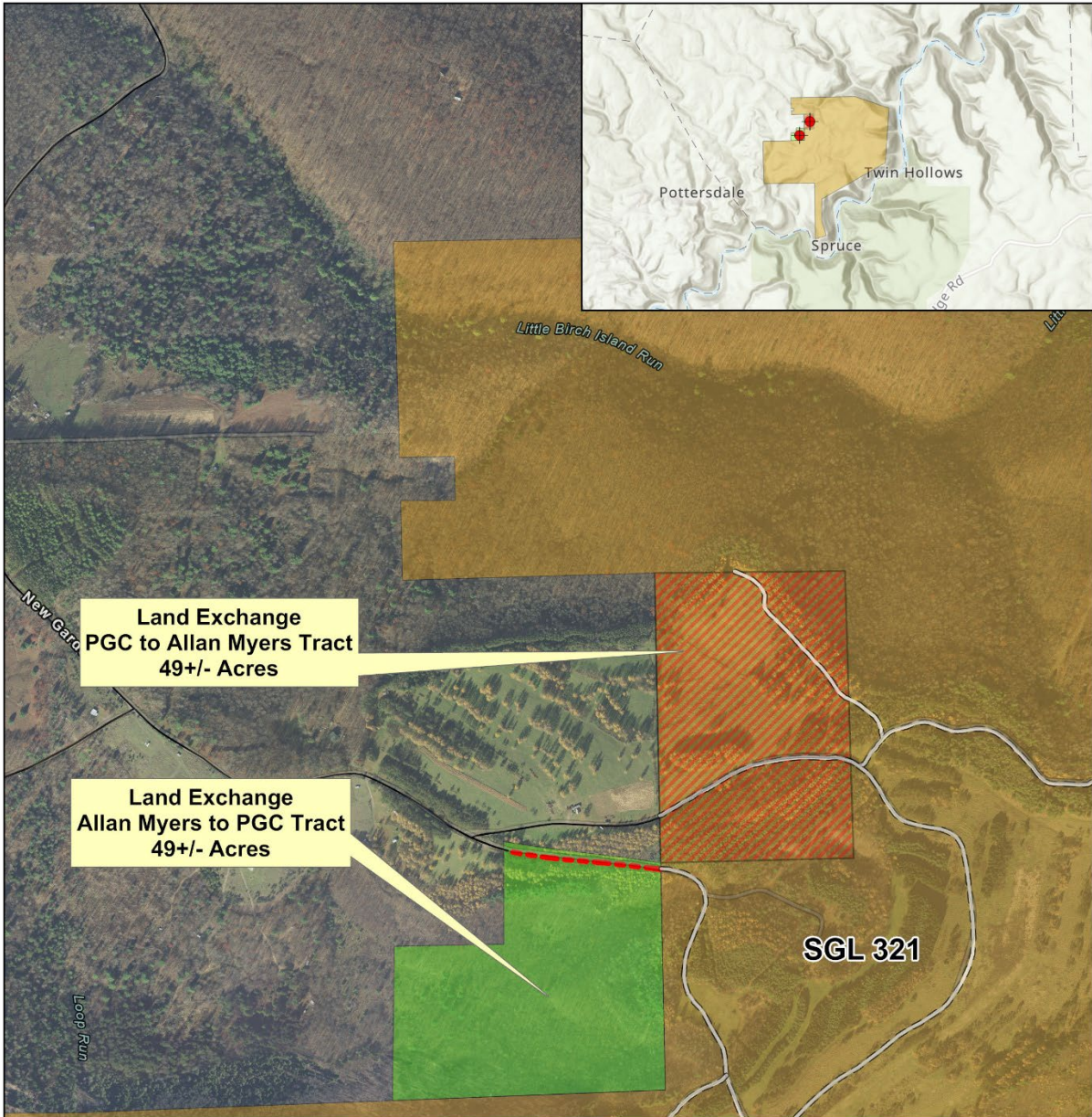
B. Exchange

Contract No. L-3934, State Game Land No. 321, Clinton County

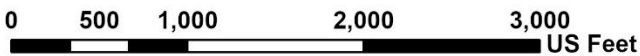
Commentary:

Allan Myers is offering 49+/- acres in West Keating Township, Clinton County, adjoining State Game Land No. 321, to the Commission in exchange for 49+/- acres of State Game Land No. 321 (Exhibit RED 3). Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)). In addition to the land exchange, Myers has included the acquisition of a private road for \$26,000 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 road access from New Garden Road is vital for administrative and lawful users of State Game Land No. 321.

Action:



- Roads on Game Lands
- Private Road
- Public Road



**Exhibit RED 3**  
**State Game Land No. 321**  
 L-3934  
 Land Exchange  
 PGC to Allan Myers Tract  
 49+/- Acres  
 Allan Myers to PGC Tract  
 49+/- Acres  
 West Keating Township  
 Clinton County  
 Northcentral Region

## OIL/GAS & MINERALS

### C. Bituminous Coal Surface Mining Agreement – AMENDMENT

Tract 198A-24, State Game Land No. 198, Cresson Township, Cambria County and Juniata Township, Blair County

#### Commentary:

RES Coal, LLC (RES) of Armagh, Pennsylvania requested an amendment to Agreement 198A-24, originally approved in September 2024, to increase surface mining and support acres by approximately 81.7+/- acres on a portion of State Game Land No. 198 located in Cresson Township, Cambria County and Juniata Township, Blair County (Exhibit OGM 1). The increased minable area (55.7+/- acres) includes a spoil area and an existing electric line right-of-way corridor. The request also includes approximately 26+/- additional support acres for mining activities. This additional acreage brings the total agreed upon area to 207.7+/- acres.

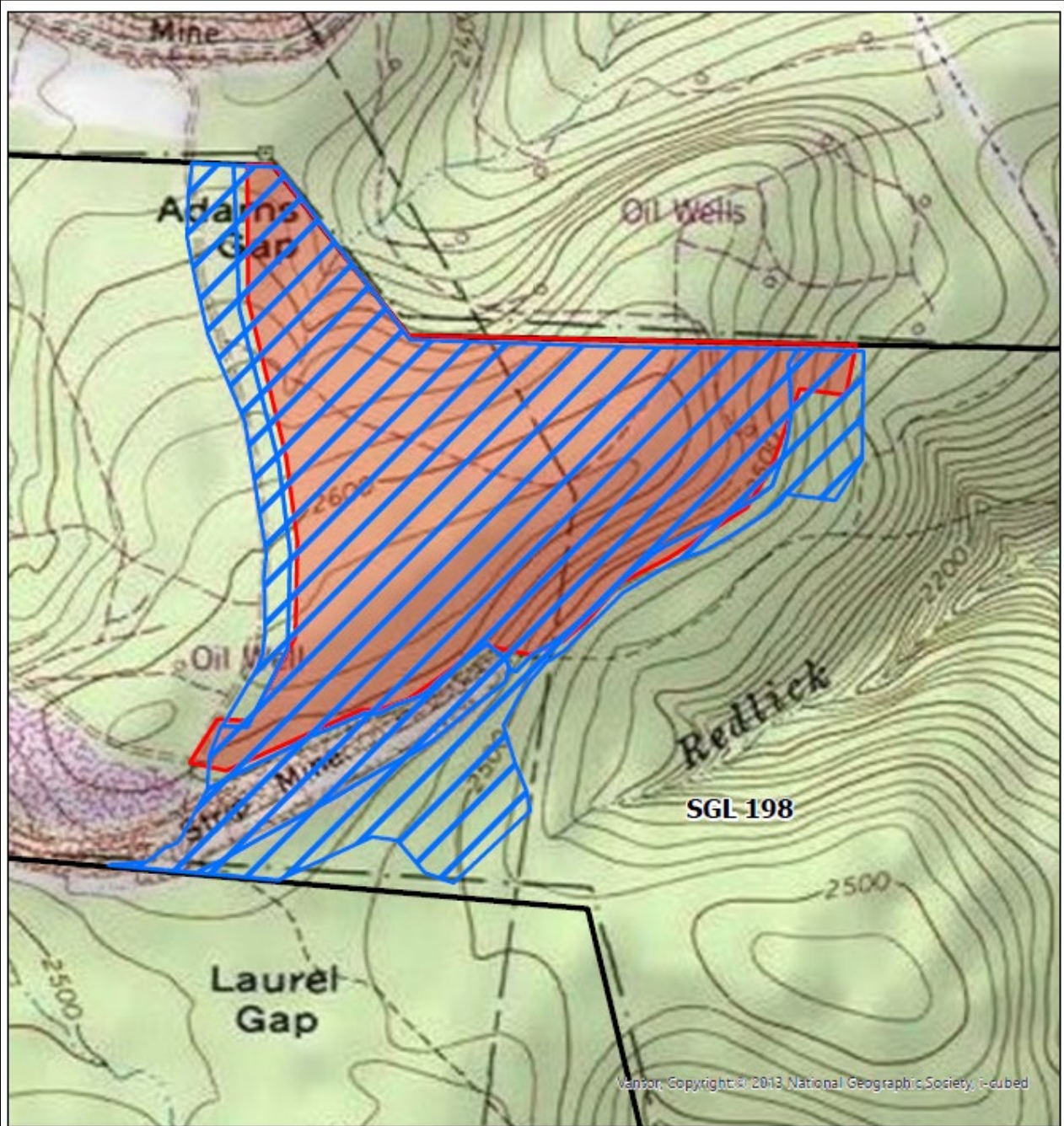
The Commission owns the surface but does not own the coal rights. RES has a lease with the coal owner. The Commission negotiated the terms of the original eight-year agreement with RES to offset the surface impacts to SGL No. 198. The amended agreement does not change the original payment terms set forth in the original agreement, but it does add an additional payment in year 5.

- RES will pay the Commission an additional \$1,049,219.00 for the additional minable acres and support area. This amount will be due in year 5.
- The year 5 payment will be reduced by \$461,727 if RES cannot mine the electric right-of-way corridor and they notify the Commission of such by the time the year 4 payment is due - otherwise the full \$1,049,219.00 is due for the year 5 payment.




Payments will be deposited into the Commission's restricted account for the future purchase of wildlife habitats, lands, or other uses incidental to hunting, furtaking, and wildlife resource management. RES will continue to pay the Commission \$0.25/ton for any coal mined from adjacent Non-Commission property as part of this operation and transported across SGL No. 198. Additionally, RES will continue to pay the Commission current market value as determined at a double stumpage rate assessed by the Commission for any timber removed as a result of the mining project. These collective payments will be directly deposited into the Game Fund.

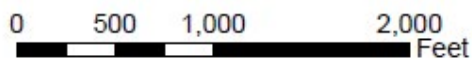
Mining activities will be regulated by the Commonwealth's Mining Regulations and the Commission's Bituminous Coal Surface Mining Agreement.

#### Action:



Vanson, Copyright © 2013, National Geographic Society, i-cubed

-  Gameland Boundary
-  Existing Agreement Area (126 acres)
-  Amended Agreement Area (207.7 acres)



**EXHIBIT OGM 1**  
**State Game Land No. 198**  
**Bituminous Coal Surface Mining Agreement**  
**RES Coal, LLC - Laurel Gap Mine**  
**Tract 198A-24**  
**Cresson Twp, Cambria Co. and**  
**Juniata Twp., Blair Co.**  
**Southcentral Region**

D. Land Exchange and Water Use Agreement – L3935

State Game Land No. 111, Lower Turkeyfoot Township, Somerset County

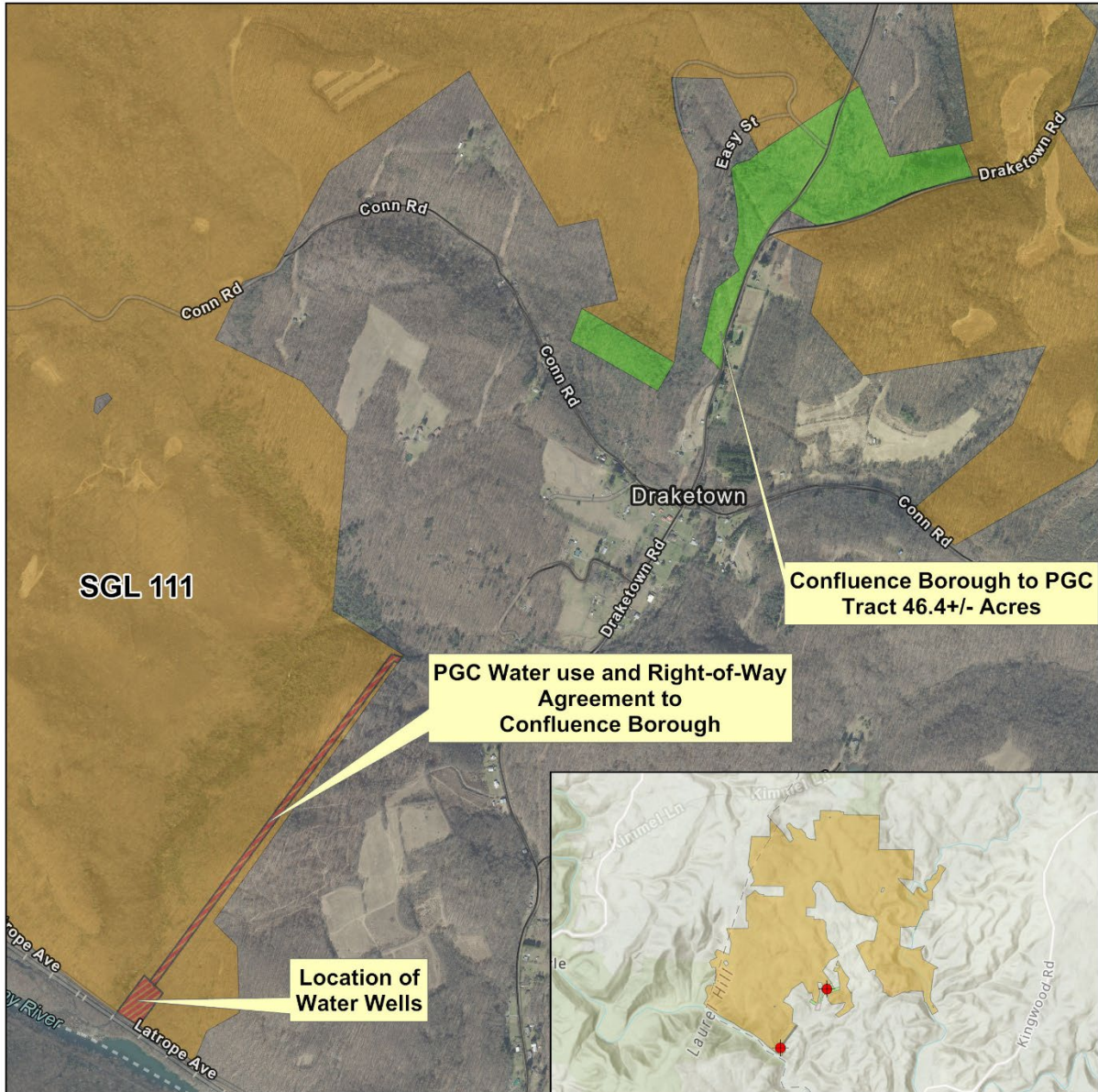
Commentary:

Confluence Municipal Borough Water Authority (CMBWA) of Confluence, Pennsylvania has requested to complete drilling and establish appropriate right-of-way agreements in order to commence operation of four water wells on State Game Land No. 111 to supply approximately 700 residents of Confluence Borough with safe drinking water. CMBWA explored other alternatives to supply the public water, but the well locations on SGL 111 prove to be the only option.

In exchange for operating up to four (4) water wellheads, associated wellhead protection zones, and electric and waterline infrastructure covering 7.5+/- acres for a 25-year period, CMBWA agrees to cause to convey to PGC 46.4+/- acres as shown on EXHIBIT OGM 2. Land exchanges are authorized under Section 723(1) of the Game and Wildlife Code (34 Pa.C.S. § 723(1)). After the 25-year term, PGC can assess an annual water production royalty payment of up to 2% of gross receipts. These future royalty payments will be deposited into the Game Fund. The agreement shall automatically renew after the initial 25-year term if the wells continue to produce and the annual royalty rate for water production set by PGC is accepted by CMBWA.

Operation of the public water wells will be regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection regulations and the Commission's Water Use Agreement.

Action:



**Exhibit OGM 2**

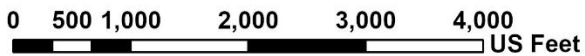
**State Game Land No. 111**

**L-3935  
Exchange  
Confluence Borough to PGC  
Tract 46.4+/- Acres  
PGC Water use Right-of-Way  
Agreement to Confluence Borough**

**Lower Turkeyfoot Township  
Somerset County  
Southwest Region**



— Public Roads



Other New Business

Next Commission Meeting – July 10, 2026 and September 11, 2026.

Adjournment

